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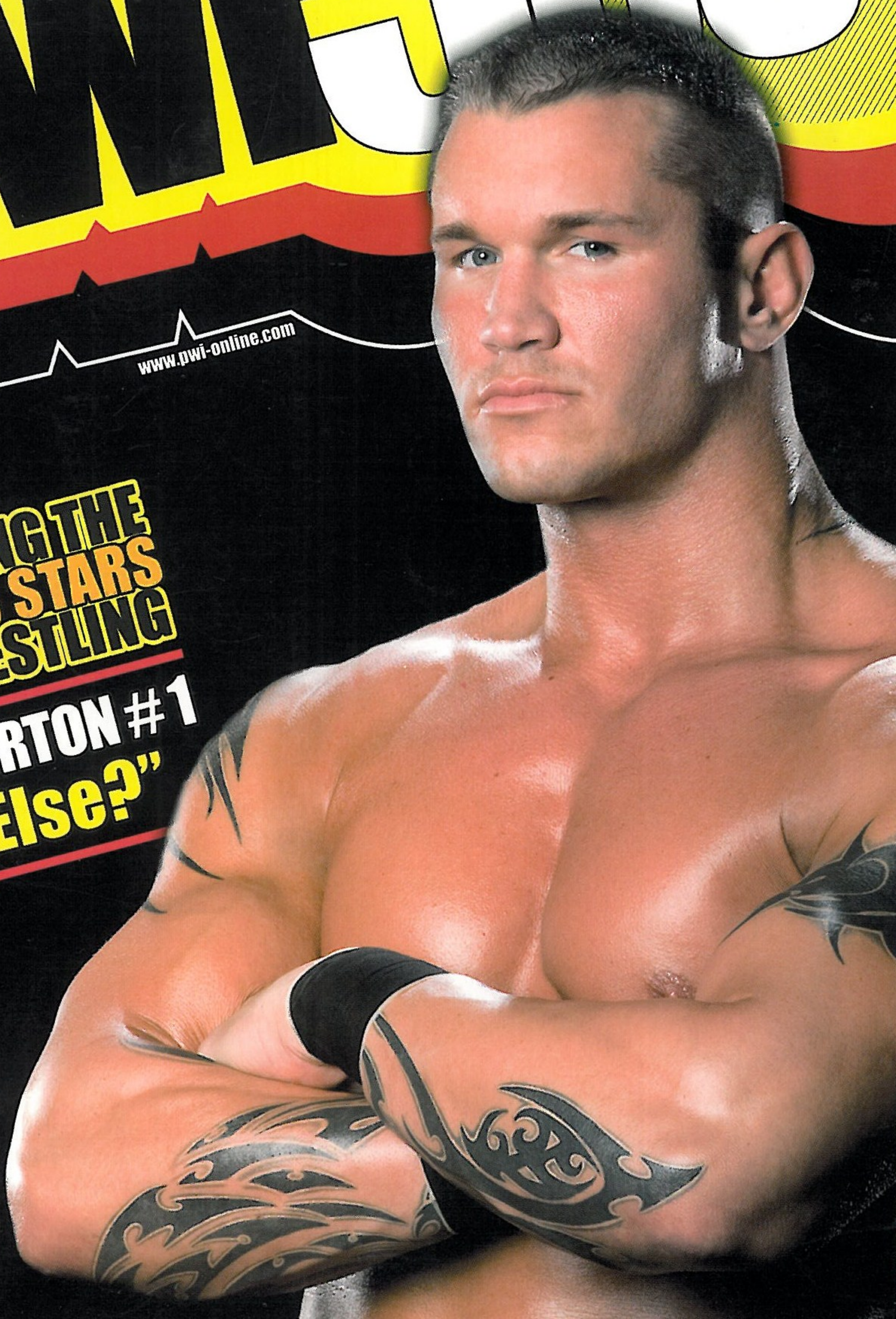
PRO **Wrestling**
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PWI 500

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➔ **RANKING THE
TOP 500 STARS
IN WRESTLING**

RANDY ORTON #1
"Who Else?"



OCTOBER 2008

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The 18th Annual

PWI 500

DELIBERATION, DISAGREEMENT, AND DEBATE

THE ANNUAL "PWI 500" is one of our highlights of the year. It's an issue that gets discussed, debated, and dissected on message boards, passed around wrestling locker rooms from WWE down to the tiniest of indy armories, and causes a flood of reaction from fans, wrestlers, and promoters.

Most of that reaction, we have to admit, is not positive. By the very nature of a sport that has both corporate and global dividing lines, it is impossible to conclusively measure the relative accomplishments and abilities of its competitors. People might agree with portions of the "500," but the chance that anyone (including our own staff!) would agree on each selection is incalculably small. And it's a fact of life that people could agree with us in principle on most of our selections and be vocal only about what they disagree with.

From a wrestler's perspective, generally speaking there are two groups of people who are satisfied with the "PWI 500." First, there is that "group" comprised of one: the wrestler who finished in the top slot. The other includes the wrestlers who are just happy to have made the list.

While one might consider it an honor to have made the top 10, each wrestler in the two through 10 slots could probably make a strong case as to why he should have received the top spot. They're not happy with us. But that's only nine people. There are hundreds and hundreds more who pick up this issue just to see if their names are listed. They have sweated and sacrificed all year for little financial remuneration and have hope that a placement—any placement—in the "500" would help jumpstart their careers. We have far more compassion for those folks than we do those

making six- and seven-figure salaries who are looking for just one more ego boost.

So ... how do we come up with this ranking?

Basically, we evaluate all of the data we have available. We review submissions sent in from more than 1,000 independent wrestlers and promoters. We mull results and trends. We review the year's worth of "Arena Reports." We watch a lot of videotape and spend a lot of time on YouTube. We make phone calls and send e-mails to our network of industry contacts and solicit their opinions.

And then we sit down and debate.

This year, the competition for the final 200 or so spots was fierce. Quite a few independent wrestlers who made the list in 2007 didn't make the cut this year. We evaluated overall accomplishments, titles won, quality of opposition, quantity and quality of promotions worked, overall talent, spot on the card, and a host of other factors to determine who made the "500" and who did not.

However, the one topic that is usually the most heavily debated was agreed upon with almost no discussion. Our editorial staff unanimously agreed that Randy Orton had earned his place as the number-one wrestler in the sport over the past 12 months. The rest of the top five—Kurt Angle, Triple-H, Samoa Joe, and Edge—were also easy to identify, though their individual rankings were more hotly contested.

As always, we are sure this year's "PWI 500" will draw praise, condemnation, and controversy; it always does. We hope you enjoy it.

[The numbers in parenthesis following the wrestlers' names represent height, weight, years pro, and last year's ranking.]

PWI 500

1 RANDY ORTON

(6'4", 245, 8, 15)

PATH TO NUMBER 1:

217 in 2001, 33 in 2002, 63 in 2003, 4 in 2004, 29 in 2005, 30 in 2006, 15 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Defeated Triple-H and John Cena to retain the Raw World championship in a triple threat match at WrestleMania 24—becoming the sixth man ever to retain the title at a WrestleMania.
2. Defeated Triple-H in a last-man-standing match to capture the Raw World championship for the second time in a single night at No Mercy.
3. Beat number-one contender Jeff Hardy to retain the Raw World title at the Royal Rumble.
4. Pinned Shawn Michaels after an RKO to retain the Raw World championship at Survivor Series.
5. Was awarded the vacant Raw World championship by Mr. McMahon at No Mercy.

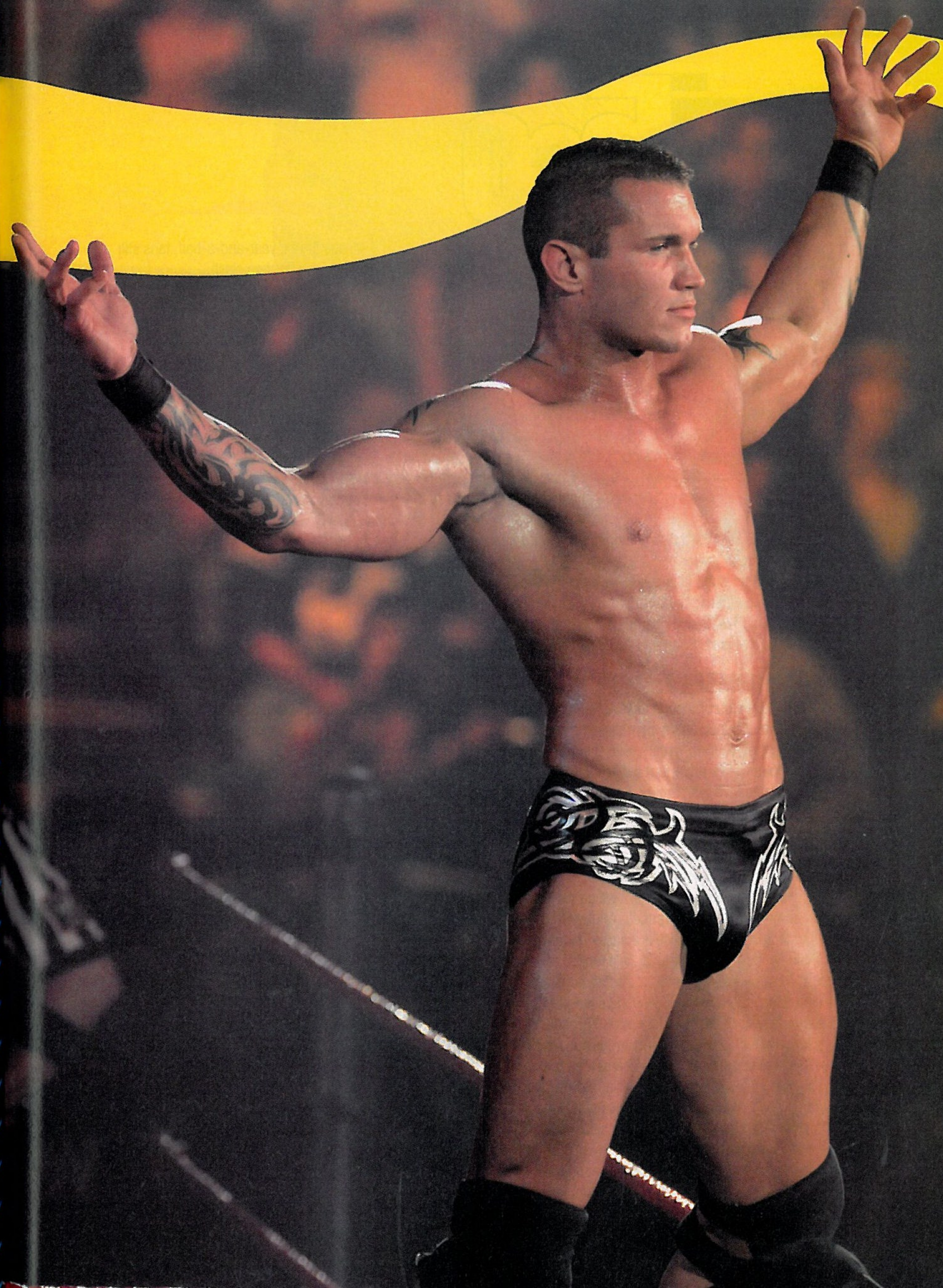
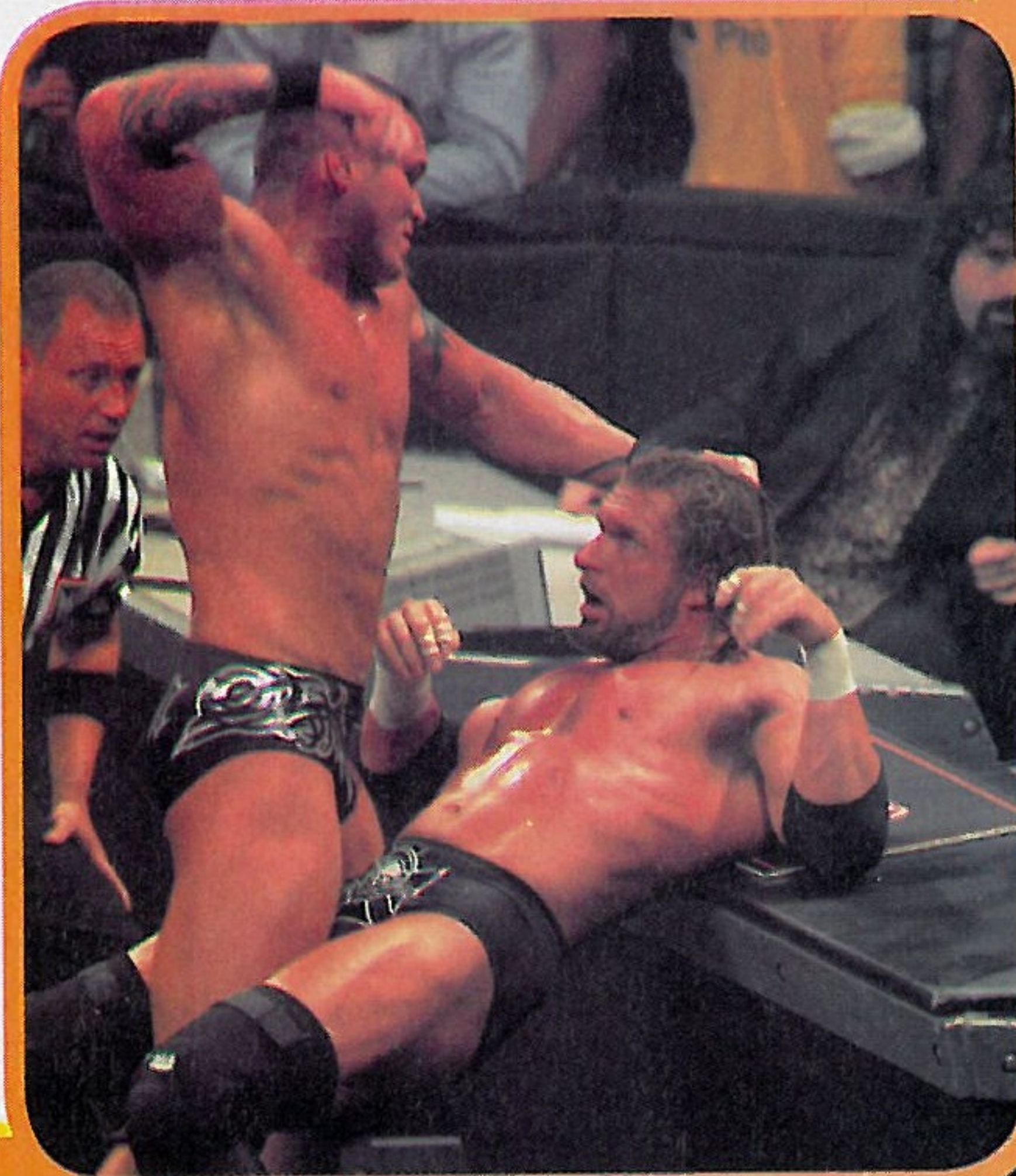
WHY HE'S NUMBER 1:

The "Legend Killer" added emphasis to the "Killer" part of his moniker over the past 12 months—displaying a calculating ruthlessness that brought him to the very top of the sport ... Orton raised his game by almost obsessively focusing on the Raw World championship and not caring about anything else, including playing to fans or making any friends ... No tactic was too underhanded in his quest to capture the title—including kicking John Cena's father in the head ... Once he won the championship, he protected it with an almost sociopathic zeal ... Where Orton couldn't win matches, he made sure to survive them with his title intact, even if it meant getting himself intentionally disqualified ... The "Age Of Orton" may have been marked by shortcuts and unsportsmanlike behavior, but it also featured a dominant seven-month title reign that included numerous successful defenses, including at WrestleMania 24 ... Sometimes criticized in the past for relying too heavily on routine wear-down holds that would take fans out of his matches, Orton's newfound determination has been evident in a more punishing and ferocious offense ... Orton's RKO finisher can come out of nowhere. And if you get caught in it, good night ...

Add to that Orton's sickening—but entirely legal—punt kick to the skull, and you have a recipe for earning wins, and the very top spot in this year's "PWI 500."

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

It may have been a frustrating setback for Orton, but in a way, the collarbone injury he suffered in a match against Triple-H at One Night Stand could not have come at a better time. Having unsuccessfully tried to recapture his title from Triple-H at two consecutive pay-per-views, Orton was destined to move down in the cards and maybe out of the world-title picture. Now, when the "Legend Killer" returns, he will likely find himself right back in the title hunt against whoever is wearing the strap at the time. And if he's healthy and rested, he's a sure bet to be holding the title again before long. For the man who was long dubbed the "future of the wrestling business," the future is clearly now. After a false start with his first world-title run four years ago, a far more mature Orton has hit upon a formula that works for him. Now, just eight years into his WWE career, Orton has joined veterans such as Shawn Michaels, Triple-H, and The Undertaker in comprising the very top tier of the sport—and he's still only in his 20s. At this pace—and if he can stay healthy—Orton can count on headlining WWE shows for at least another decade.



pwi500

2 KURT ANGLE

(6'1", 233, 9, 4)

PATH TO NUMBER 2:

313 in 2000, 1 in 2001, 6 in 2002, 3 in 2003, 36 in 2004, 6 in 2005, 2 in 2006, 4 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Won back the TNA World championship from Sting two days after losing it at Bound for Glory.
2. Defeated Samoa Joe to capture TNA's X division and tag team championships in a winner-take-all match at Hard Justice.
3. Retained his IWGP 3rd Belt championship in a match against Yuji Nagata in Tokyo.
4. Beat Christian Cage in consecutive pay-per-views at No Resolution and Against All Odds.
5. Retained his TNA World championship in a tag team match with A.J. Styles vs. Sting and Booker T at Genesis.

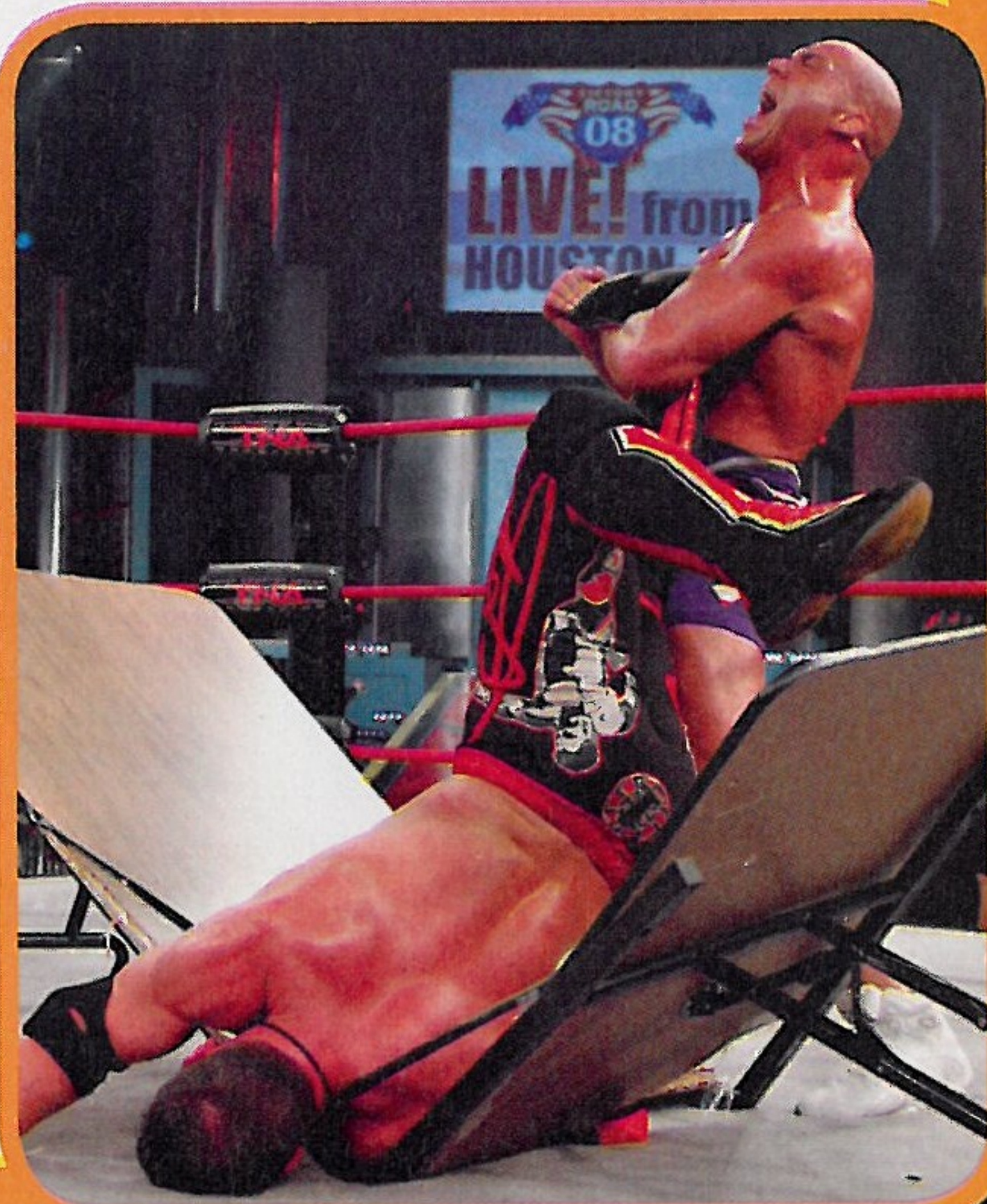
WHY HE'S NUMBER 2:

In his first full year competing in TNA, Kurt Angle helped raise the profile of the company by reclaiming his stake as one of the best all-around wrestlers in the world ... The same ultra-competitive drive that led Angle to winning an Olympic gold medal with a "broken freakin' neck" has not only driven him to being the best wrestler in TNA, but has also motivated him to try to make TNA the best wrestling product in the world ... To that end, Angle remains motivated to do more than just win his matches; he is driven to make sure his matches are great ... Through his consistent four-star main-event performances, Angle often almost single-handedly made otherwise mediocre TNA events into memorable ones ... Along the way, he's racked up enough gold to make a pharaoh jealous ... At one point last year, Angle simultaneously held the TNA World championship, tag team championship, X division championship, and IWGP 3rd belt championship ... Not content to just prove himself against TNA's talent pool, Angle has continued to compete around the world, including in high-profile matches in Japan and Korea ... Just as Hulk Hogan had his Roddy Piper, Angle owes some of his success in TNA to an arch-rival that has helped raise his game and made so many of his pay-per-view main event outings so special—Samoa Joe ... Even after having competed in five pay-per-view singles matches

in less than a year-and-a-half, fans still clamor to see the two clash.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

The main concern about Angle's future is the same one that has followed him for years: his health. Going into May's Slammiversary, Angle re-aggravated the neck injury that has haunted him for the last dozen years. Although he's proven himself to be near super-human in the past, one has to wonder how much longer Angle, who turns 40 this year, can compete at his current level. Angle may have foreshadowed a long-term change in his high-impact style during his match with Samoa Joe at Lockdown, where he relied more on a mixed martial arts-inspired submission attack. Another factor for Angle going forward may be the company he keeps. His ill-fated "Angle Alliance" was plagued with dissension from its earliest days. Angle also added a new dimension to his package over the last year in the form of his wife, Karen, who has been nearly inseparable from her husband during his matches and backstage. The jury is still out on whether Karen will be a positive influence on Kurt, or just an unnecessary distraction. Whatever the case, Angle's health remains a key ingredient in TNA's ongoing expansion on the national wrestling landscape.



pwi500

3 TRIPLE-H

(6'4", 260, 16, 51)

PATH TO NUMBER 3:

225 in 1994, 84 in 1995, 79 in 1996, 31 in 1997, 14 in 1998, 26 in 1999, 1 in 2000, 6 in 2001, 10 in 2002, 2 in 2003, 3 in 2004, 4 in 2005, 21 in 2006, 51 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Pinned Randy Orton to capture his 12th world title in a "Fatal Four-Way" elimination match at Backlash that included John Bradshaw Layfield and John Cena.
2. Won a six-man elimination chamber match at Backlash to earn a world title match at WrestleMania 24.
3. Defeated Randy Orton to capture the Raw World championship at No Mercy, and then successfully defended the title in a match against Umaga later that night.
4. Retained the Raw World championship against Randy Orton in a steel cage match at Judgment Day.
5. Beat King Booker at SummerSlam in his return match after an eight-month injury hiatus.

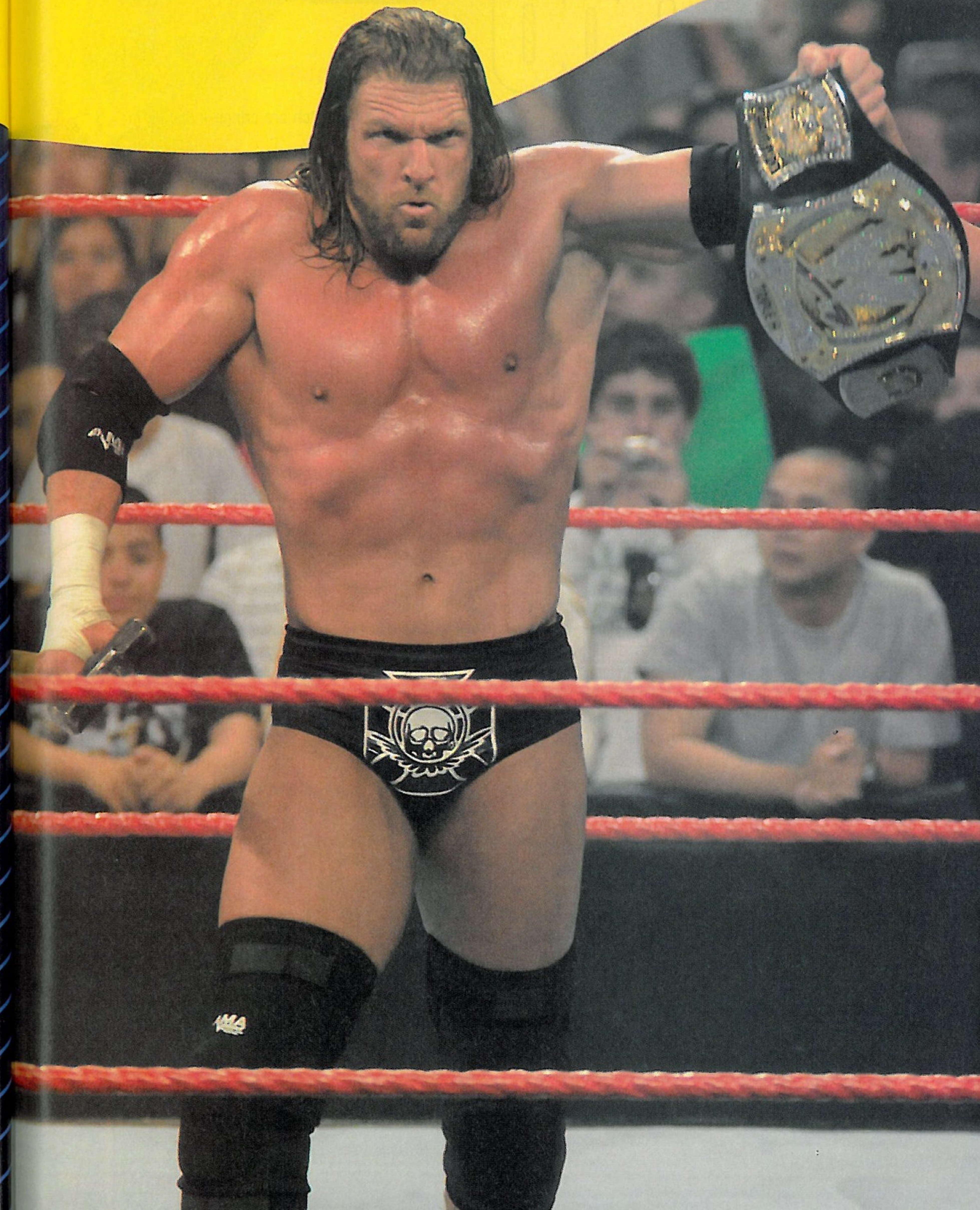
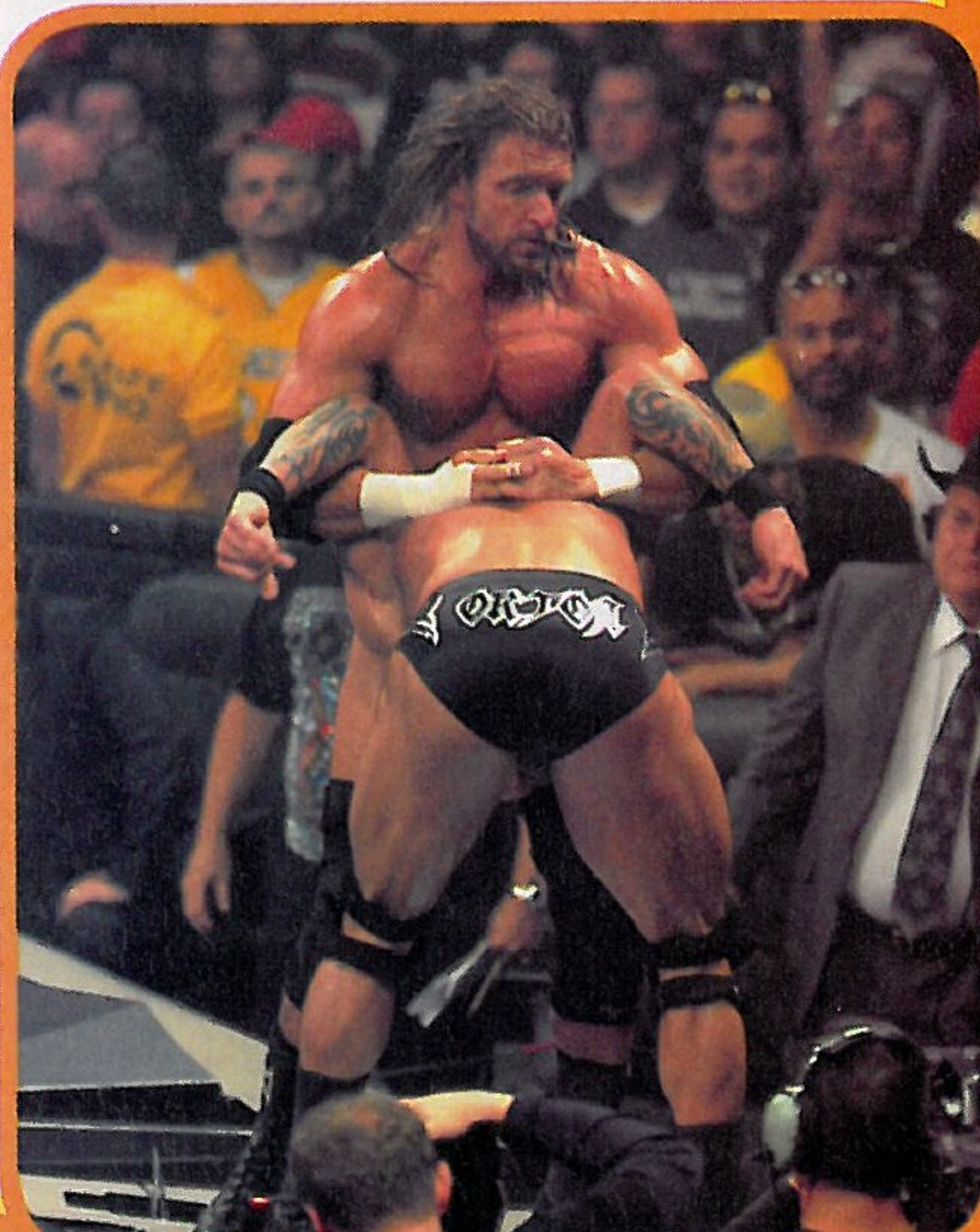
WHY HE'S NUMBER 3:

The "King Of Kings" is back ... But for his two-hour reign in October, Triple-H spent more than three years without wearing world title gold. Now, he's healthy, back on top of WWE as Raw World champion, and looking as dominant as ever ... Even Triple-H's detractors would have a hard time arguing that the past year of his career has been anything short of inspirational ... "The Game" was clearly focused on reclaiming gold from the moment he returned from his second quad tear last summer ... Even after suffering numerous setbacks, including being forced to wrestle three times in a single night at No Mercy, losing to Jeff Hardy at Armageddon, and being tossed out of the ring by a returning John Cena at the Royal Rumble, Triple-H never lost focus of his ultimate goal ... It was Triple-H's pedigree finisher that led to the winning pinfall on John Cena at WrestleMania's triple-threat world title match; unfortunately, it was Orton that covered Cena for the win ... The stars finally aligned for Triple-H at Backlash, where he again overcame overwhelming odds in a four-man elimination match to pin Orton for the title ... He silenced any doubters by soundly defeating Orton in two consecutive pay-per-view rematches ... Triple-H remains one of the most intense

brawlers in the sport, as well as one of its most cunning ring generals ... With the fans on his side, his latest world championship reign could be his most defining.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

With a dozen world title reigns in his back pocket—and Ric Flair officially retired—many observers believe that Triple-H is gunning to top the "Nature Boy's" record 16 reigns. But Triple-H would prefer to keep it at 12—just as long as his 12th reign doesn't come to an end. That could be tough on a Raw roster that includes the likes of multiple former world champions, such as Orton, Cena, Layfield, Chris Jericho, and even Shawn Michaels. All would love a crack at "The Game's" belt. But if there's one thing that Triple-H has going for him, it's momentum. While seeing Triple-H wearing gold may seem like old hat, there is something distinctly fresh about his current reign: He has the support of fans. But for a small stretch in 2002, most of Triple-H's world title stints have been marked by rulebreaking and oceans of boos. Fueled by the cheers of the crowd, Triple-H is motivated not only to win matches these days, but also to earn those wins through merit—not sledgehammers.



pwi500

4 SAMOA JOE (6'3", 290, 9, 12)

PATH TO NUMBER 4:

314 in 2001, 230 in 2002, 155 in 2003, 34 in 2004, 22 in 2005, 4 in 2006, 12 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Defeated Kurt Angle in a "Six Sides Of Steel" match at Lockdown to capture his first TNA World championship.
2. Became the first man to retain his TNA World championship in a "King Of The Mountain" match when he bested Robert Roode, Booker T, Christian Cage, and Rhino at Slammiversary.
3. Successfully defended the TNA championship in a three-way match vs. Scott Steiner and Kaz at Sacrifice.
4. Defeated Robert Roode at Genesis.
5. Forced Christian Cage to submit in a grudge match at Bound for Glory.

WHY HE'S NUMBER 4:

Since his historic reign as heavyweight champion in Ring of Honor, fans predicted big things for Samoa Joe—a wrestler so intense and so unique that the rest of the wrestling world couldn't help but take notice ... Big things have long appeared in store for Joe, and none have been bigger than when the "Samoan Submission Machine" captured his first TNA World championship—defeating Kurt Angle for the top title in April ... For his fans, the win was less a matter of an up-and-comer breaking through, and more a matter of one of wrestling's best performers finally getting his due ... The cage match in which Joe won the title was widely praised as historic not only for the title change, but for showcasing an MMA style of professional wrestling that could be a peek into the future of the sport ... To that end, Joe can prove to be more than just a featured star in TNA, but the centerpiece of a revolutionary new direction for the company ... Indeed, long before winning the heavyweight title, Joe showed the makings of a leader, both through decisively winning matches against several of the company's most talented performers, and by standing up for himself and the company's next generation of stars—whether that meant holding out for a better contract, or taking Scott Hall to task for no-showing a card ... But, for certain, it's what Joe can do in the ring that has brought him to the dance ... His musclebuster and

Kokina clutch are cringe-inducing in their brutality.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

Having achieved the distinction of world champion, the sky could be the limit for Samoa Joe going forward. As evidenced by this list, the pool of contenders for Joe's title is not terribly deep, but includes veteran competitors such as Angle, Booker T, Sting, and Christian Cage. Joe also seems destined for an inevitable showdown with the man who has mentored him over the past year, Kevin Nash. While far past his prime, Nash is in shape, motivated, and knows how to make the most of his size and power. For the sake of his championship legacy—and TNA's future health—Joe may be well served to defend his title against the crop of young TNA charter members looking for their chance to shine. That includes everyone from Kaz to A.J. Styles. Going forward, Joe also needs to keep his emotions in check so as not to make any foolish decisions. His in-ring blowup at December's Turning Point, as well as his months of whining over his contract status have shown Joe to be easily flustered—a trait that could make him vulnerable to challengers. While it may be his heart that fuels his intensity, Joe needs to keep a level head when facing opportunists who count on Joe putting pride over smarts.



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5 EDGE

(6'4", 240, 15, 2)

PATH TO NUMBER 5:

254 in 1997, 67 in 1998, 83 in 1999, 51 in 2000, 20 in 2001, 7 in 2002, 34 in 2003, 59 in 2004, 8 in 2005, 3 in 2006, 2 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Beat The Undertaker in a spectacular tables, ladders, and chairs match to capture his fifth world title at One Night Stand.

2. Won a triple threat match against Batista and The Undertaker to capture the Smackdown World heavyweight championship at Armageddon.

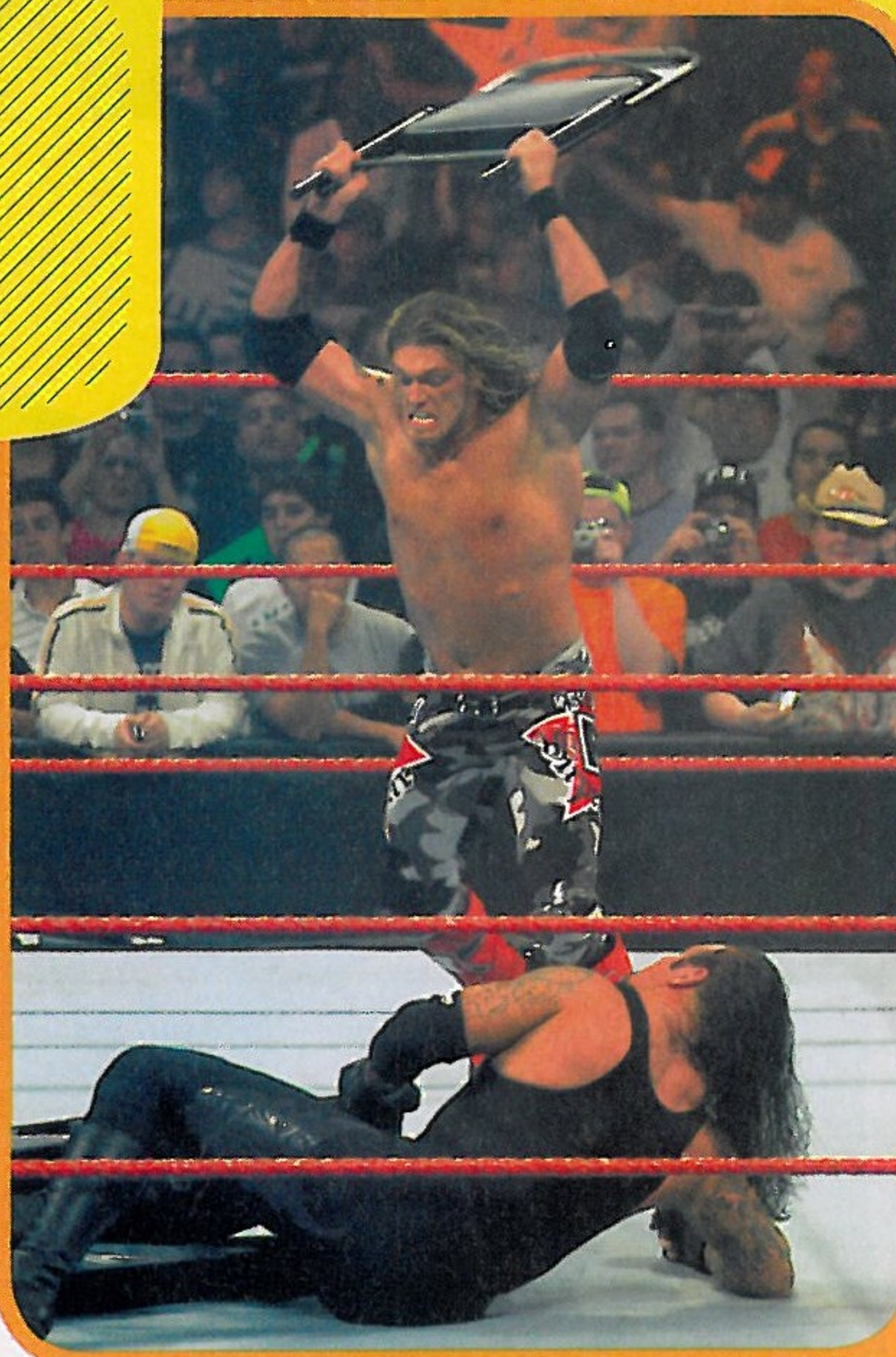
3. Defeated Rey Mysterio to retain the Smackdown World championship at the Royal Rumble, and again at No Way Out.

4. Returned from a four-month absence to interfere in a Smackdown World title "Hell In A Cell" match between The Undertaker and Batista at the Survivor Series.

5. Formed La Familia, a stable of influential WWE superstars that includes his fiancée, Smackdown General Manager Vickie Guerrero.

WHY HE'S NUMBER 5:

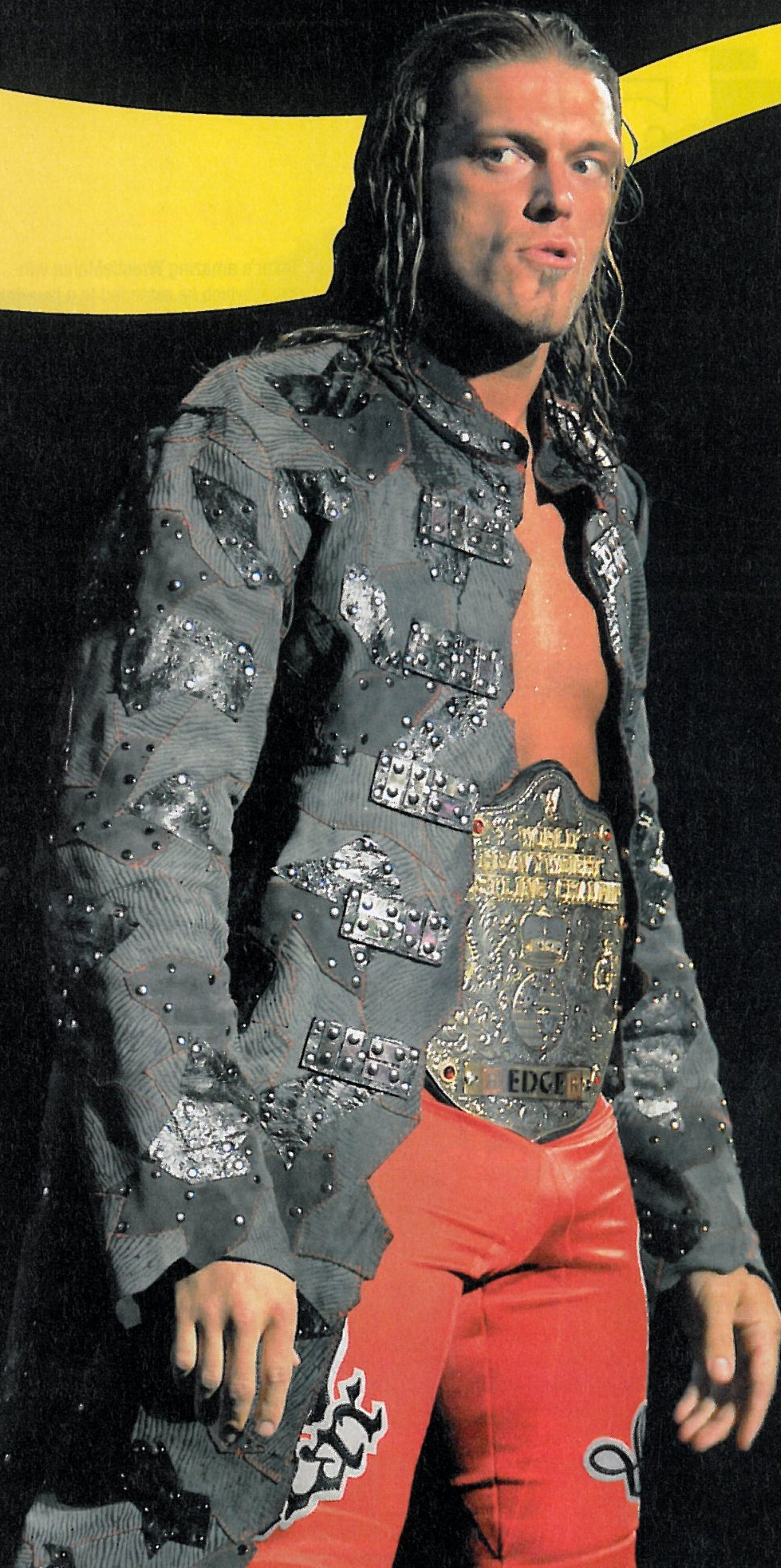
WWE's most notorious opportunist has made the most of every situation over the past year, along the way picking up two Smackdown World titles and forming pro wrestling's ultimate power couple ... For all his underhanded tactics, the "Rated R Superstar" is widely considered WWE's best all around performer—fundamentally sound in his wrestling game, deceptively tough in wild brawls like his instant-classic TLC match with The Undertaker, and capable of nearly inciting a riot with his rhetoric on the microphone ... Make no mistake; there is a method to Edge's sleazy madness ... More than just rile up fans, Edge's antics have served to disarm those around him, whether that means goading Rey Mysterio into wrestling him with one arm or sweeping Smackdown's general manager off her feet ... In a WWE era where the "strength in numbers" philosophy has fallen by the wayside, Edge has wisely insulated himself within La Familia, which includes Chavo Guerrero, Zack Ryder, Curt Hawkins, and Bam Neely, who have done a lot of Edge's dirty work ...



But—as fragile as she may be—Edge's strongest ally has been Vickie Guerrero, who, blinded by love, has bent, broken, and even made a few rules to benefit her boy toy ... With his tall, lanky physique and darting speed, Edge's spear connects like a cruise missile to the gut, and is usually enough to finish his foes.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

While Edge's relationship with Vickie may have paid off dividends for the blue brand's champion, it could also be his downfall. WWE's Executive Committee may only tolerate so much of Guerrero's obvious partiality toward her paramour before stepping in and addressing the obvious conflict of interest. With Guerrero out of power, La Familia could crumble, and Edge may find himself wielding far less influence on Smackdown. Perhaps even more likely, it could be only a matter of time before Guerrero discovers Edge's ulterior motives and dumps him. Nonetheless, Edge has proven in recent years that he doesn't need a golden goose to stay on top of WWE. In his 10th year as a WWE competitor, Edge has already won five world titles and established himself as one of the true anchors of the Smackdown brand. He remains one of WWE's most targeted villains, and there are few opponents that he hasn't seen and defeated before.



pwi500

6 THE UNDERTAKER

(6'10", 304, 24, 5)

PATH TO NUMBER 6:

21 in 1992, 46 in 1993, 23 in 1994, 14 in 1995, 19 in 1996, 6 in 1997, 5 in 1998, 8 in 1999, NL in 2000, 11 in 2001, 2 in 2002, 18 in 2003, 23 in 2004, 26 in 2005, 59 in 2006, 5 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Defeated Edge at WrestleMania 24 to capture his sixth world title and extend his WrestleMania winning streak to 16-0.
2. Won a No Way Out elimination chamber match that included Batista, Big Daddy V, Finlay, The Great Khali, and MVP to earn a WrestleMania Smackdown World title shot.
3. Retained the Smackdown World title against Edge in an April rematch at Backlash.
4. Pinned Mark Henry at Unforgiven in his first match after a four-month absence from the ring.
5. Defeated Edge at Judgment Day by countout. But was forced to leave Smackdown because he couldn't win the title by countout.

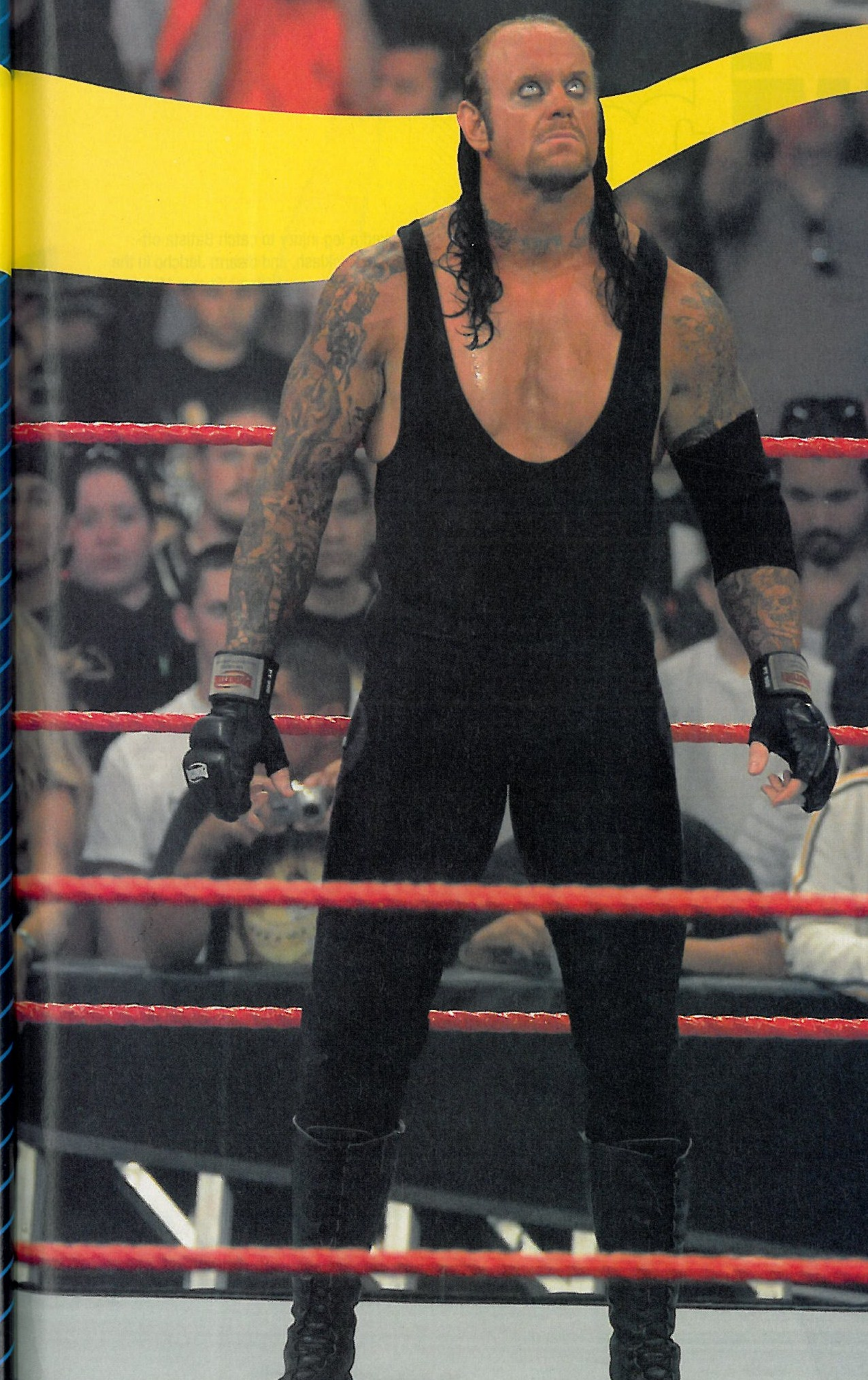
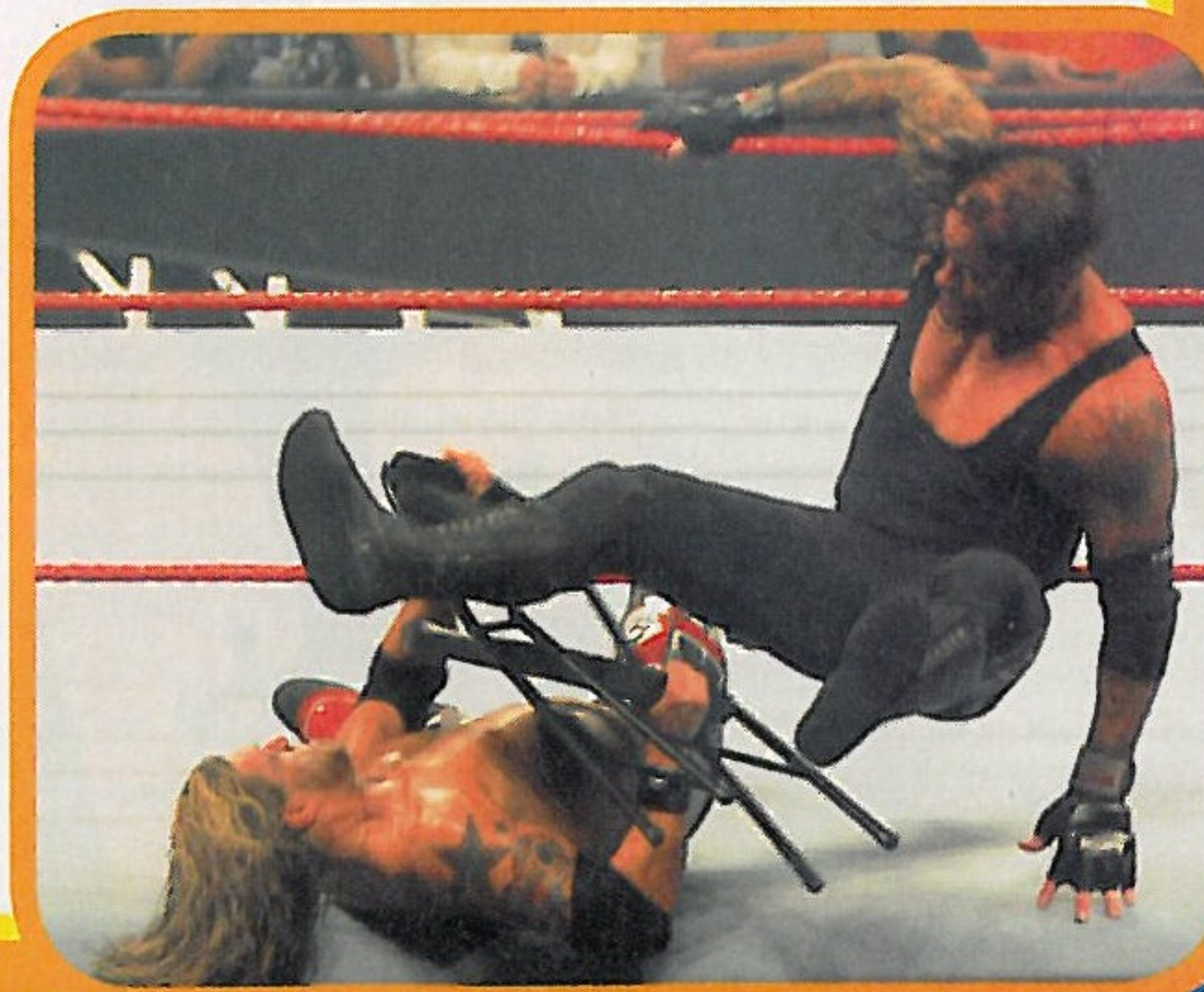
WHY HE'S NUMBER 6:

If you were born the year that the man from Death Valley debuted in the WWF, you're old enough to vote now ... But even in his 18th year with the company, The Undertaker remains one of its most popular stars, well-conditioned athletes, and biggest innovators in the ring ... After having his 2007 Smackdown World title reign cut short due to injury, 'Taker returned to the ring in September motivated to pick up where he left off ... The Undertaker was as dominant as ever upon his return, decisively winning matches against the likes of Chavo Guerrero, Big Daddy V, Mark Henry, and Edge ... His few losses have been anything but clean, and have predominantly involved underhanded tactics by Edge ... Continuing to reinvent himself as a professional wrestler, the "Dead Man" has struck a new level of terror in the hearts of his opponents with his new mixed-martial-arts-inspired gogoplata chokehold ... The hold is so dangerous that it led Vickie Guerrero to ban it, and strip The Undertaker of the World title in May ... Or maybe it was Guerrero's thinly veiled attempt to protect Edge, her lover, who was twice victimized by the maneuver ... Perhaps as coveted a claim in the sport as any world title

is 'Taker's amazing WrestleMania winning streak, which he extended to a jaw-dropping 16-0 by defeating Edge in the main event of this year's show before 75,000 fans in the Citrus Bowl ... The Undertaker has also, on occasion over the past year, teamed with his equally terrifying sibling, Kane, to reform The Brothers of Destruction ... More than just a top star and legend, The Undertaker has cemented his place as the captain of the WWE locker room through his experience, popularity, and wisdom.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

After nearly two decades of destruction, the "Dead Man" may finally be slowing down (haven't we written that before?). 'Taker's extended hiatuses to heal injuries have become nearly an annual occurrence, and one has to wonder whether the veteran's 43-year-old body is running out of gas. After being stripped of the Smackdown World title by Vickie Guerrero, 'Taker lost a TLC match against Edge at One Night Stand to decide the vacant championship. As a result of losing, The Undertaker was banished from WWE. Still, most fans expect 'Taker to be back in the ring before too long. While WWE's "Phenom" may be feeling the wear and tear of such a long and physical career, he's also found ways to extend his shelf life, including developing a style that relies more on submission holds rather than high-impact moves. While 'Taker's days as a full-time, championship contender may be limited, he is still an invaluable commodity as a featured attraction, and one-half of several possible WWE dream matches, including against Shawn Michaels, Triple-H, and John Cena. As the longtime poster boy for Smackdown, it would be hard to imagine the brand without him.



pwi500

7 SHAWN MICHAELS

(6', 217, 25, 6)

PATH TO NUMBER 7:

37 in 1991, 16 in 1992, 3 in 1993, 5 in 1994, 1 in 1996, 18 in 1997, 49 in 1998, NL in 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, 32 in 2003, 9 in 2004, 34 in 2005, 9 in 2006, 6 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Defeated Ric Flair at WrestleMania 24 in an epic match that marked the end of Flair's legendary career.
2. Pinned Batista at Backlash.
3. Beat Chris Jericho at Judgment Day.
4. Beat Randy Orton by disqualification in a Raw World championship match at Cyber Sunday in which fans chose the challenger.
5. Defeated Ken Kennedy in a grudge match at Armageddon.

WHY HE'S NUMBER 7:

It's been 20 years since Shawn Michaels first stepped into a WWE ring, and still today he continues to build a legacy as one of the sport's most dynamic performers ... In a career filled with WrestleMania main events and world title runs, Michaels added one of the most historic milestones in his career this March when he became the man to retire arguably the greatest wrestler who ever lived: Ric Flair ... While fans—and even Flair—had nothing but respect for the “Heartbreak Kid” for sending the “Nature Boy” off with a match for the ages, Michaels' full-throttle effort made him a couple of new enemies in the form of Batista and Chris Jericho ... While Michaels has not made a serious run at the Raw World title since November, he is one of a select few wrestlers whose name alone can make a match main-event worthy ... So lofty is Michaels' reputation that, even in defeat, he can accomplish something ... Jeff Hardy's clean victory over the legendary HBK in February helped legitimize Hardy in the eyes of fans and his peers ... Although Michaels long ago left behind some of the sleazy tactics that made him notorious in the 1990s, he is not above using mind games to get an edge on opponents ... That was the case when Michaels

faked a leg injury to catch Batista off-guard at Backlash, and disarm Jericho in the weeks that followed ... When watching a Shawn Michaels match, avoid bathroom breaks; HBK's sweet chin music superkick can come when you least expect it, and a three-count usually follows.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

Like The Undertaker, the fact that Michaels is one of WWE's longest-working veterans is starting to show. But more than just achy bones and sore muscles, Michaels appears to be most affected by the mental and emotional toll of the job. He seemed downright tortured going into his WrestleMania match against his close friend and childhood idol, Flair, and he carried that burden through his rivalries with Batista and Jericho. Still, nobody can get up for a match like Shawn Michaels, and as long as he's healthy, HBK will likely remain WWE's go-to guy for match-of-the-year contenders. However, Michaels could benefit from a change of scenery. Having feuded with everyone from Triple-H to Randy Orton to Ken Kennedy to Chris Jericho, there is little left for Michaels to prove on WWE's red brand. Conversely, awaiting him were he to jump to Smackdown would be several intriguing opponents, including Rey Mysterio and Matt Hardy.



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8 NIGEL McGUINNESS

(6'1", 220, 8, 25)

PATH TO NUMBER 8:

291 in 2002, 299 in 2003, 219 in 2004, 124 in 2005, 47 in 2006, 25 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Defeated Takeshi Morishima at the ROH pay-per-view Undeniable to capture his first ROH heavyweight championship.

2. Beat "American Dragon" Bryan Danielson by referee stoppage in a heavyweight title match at ROH's Sixth Anniversary show.

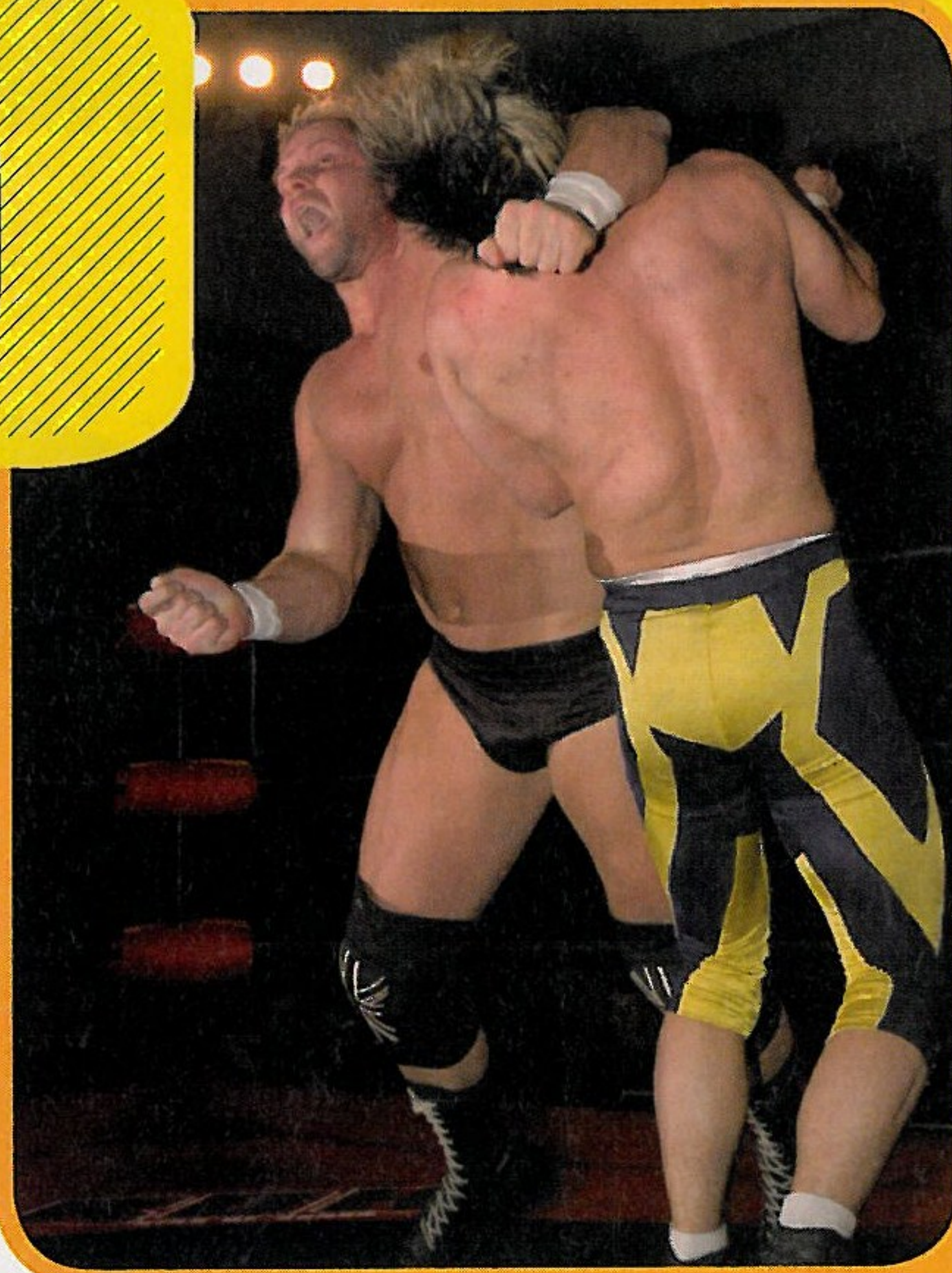
3. Retained his championship by beating Austin Aries in a classic match at ROH's "Rising Above" pay-per-view.

4. Defeated Claudio Castagnoli to retain his championship in the main event of ROH's first event in the Hammerstein Ballroom in New York City.

5. Beat Tyler Black in a hard-fought ROH heavyweight championship match at ROH's "Take No Prisoners" pay-per-view.

WHY HE'S NUMBER 8:

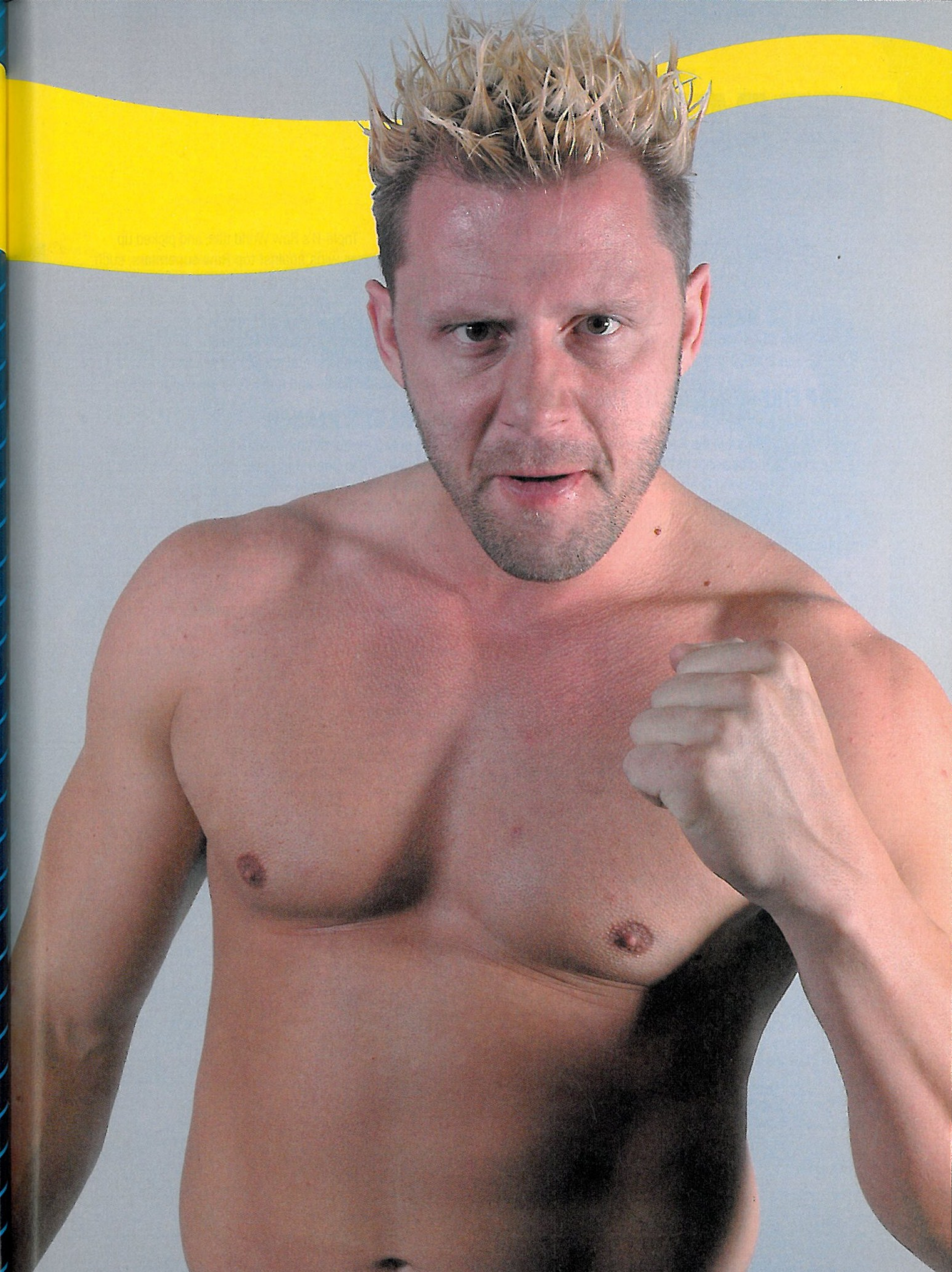
Unfortunately for Nigel McGuinness, after being long-heralded by insiders as one of the sport's most promising stars, the year he finally gets his due is also the year most fans turned their backs on him ... Many of those same fans erupted in joy after years of outstanding performances in Ring of Honor when the London native defeated Takeshi Morishima in October to realize his dream of capturing the ROH heavyweight title ... But soon fans began questioning McGuinness' heart after he missed numerous title defenses because of injuries and tried to get out of defending his title against formidable foes, including Bryan Danielson and Claudio Castagnoli ... Despite his reservations, the brash Englishman picked up victories against both those men, as well as every other challenger to his title, including Go Shiozaki, Kevin Steen, and Austin Aries ... At over 6', 220 pounds, McGuinness is considerably larger than most of the men the ROH locker room ... He combines his size with a hard-hitting, European-inspired ring style, including forearm strikes, submission holds, and a variety of clotheslines ... McGuinness' calling card, the jawbreaker lariat, is downright scary ... In fact, it was the impact with which the



southpaw delivered the move that caused him to tear his left biceps, and forced him to learn how to deliver the maneuver with his right arm ... For all his whining, and chewing out of fans, McGuinness has proven himself to be a worthy, fighting ROH heavyweight champion, and one that will be tough to dethrone.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

As ROH's profile on the national wrestling scene continues to grow, McGuinness may find himself in a pressure cooker as the company's heavyweight champion. With ROH's reputation for featuring a very high quality in-ring product, there is a long line of contenders looking to knock McGuinness off his perch and lay claim to being the best of the best. With ROH recently forging a talent-exchange agreement with Mexico's AAA and continuing its working relationship with Japan's NOAH, McGuinness' future challengers could come from all over the world. And while he's defeated most everyone on the ROH roster, McGuinness barely survived some of those matches. Challengers such as Danielson, Aries, and Morishima are perennial contenders for the heavyweight title, and on any given night could get the best of McGuinness. It's also possible that larger national wrestling promotions, such as TNA or WWE, could give McGuinness a look over the next year. While ROH fans may take to booing the Cockney-spouting villain, make no mistake, his departure would be a tremendous loss to Ring of Honor.



pwi500

9 JOHN CENA

(6'3", 260, 8, 1)

PATH TO NUMBER 9:

281 in 2001, 46 in 2002, 12 in 2003, 7 in 2004, 2 in 2005, 1 in 2006, 1 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Made a surprise return from a triceps injury as the number-30 entrant in the Royal Rumble, and won the match to earn a world title shot at WrestleMania.
2. Defeated John Bradshaw Layfield in a grueling first-blood match at One Night Stand.
3. Beat Randy Orton to retain the Raw World championship in a hard-fought battle at SummerSlam 2007.
4. Defeated Raw World champion Randy Orton at No Way Out when Orton intentionally got himself disqualified to save his title reign.
5. Pinned Jeff Hardy in a Raw match to decide the number-one contender to Triple-H's World title at Night of Champions.

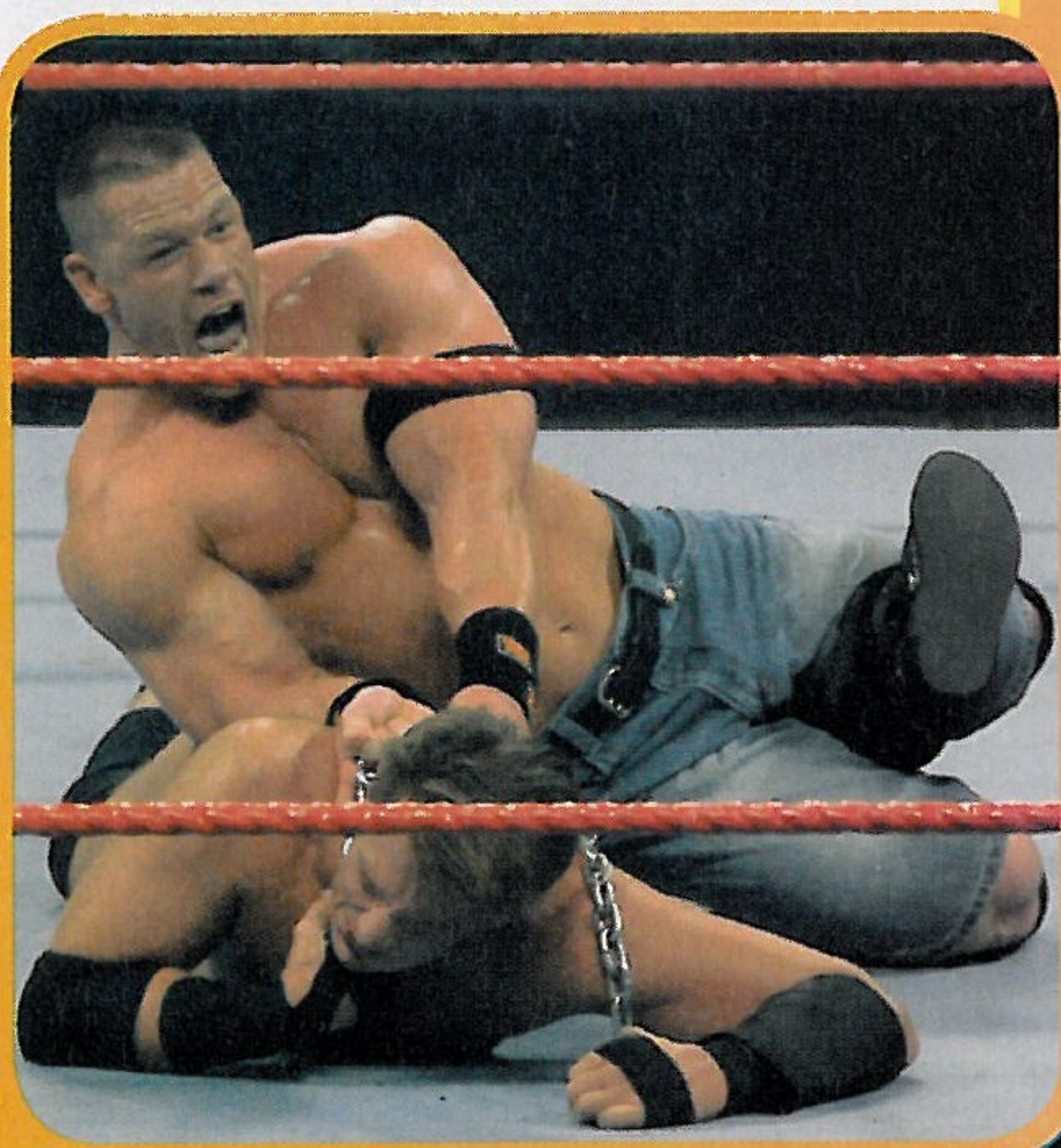
WHY HE'S NUMBER 9:

Call him the "Big Brown" of the "PWI 500." If ever there was a candidate to three-peat as at the number-one spot in the "PWI 500," it may very well have been John Cena; but the freight train momentum that Cena carried through two years as the sport's top attraction came to a grinding halt in October, when he suffered an injury that forced him to relinquish the Raw World title and put an end to the sixth longest WWE world championship reign in history ... Although Cena was rumored to miss as much as a year of ring time as he rehabbed the injury, he shocked the wrestling world by entering and winning the Royal Rumble just four months after his departure ... But Cena stumbled in his comeback soon afterward, coming up short in trying to recapture his title from Randy Orton at No Way Out, and getting pinned in world-title rematches at WrestleMania and Backlash ... After headlining shows for nearly three years, Cena found himself in the unfamiliar opening match of a pay-per-view in May ... Cena regained some of his steam in his subsequent rivalry with John Bradshaw Layfield, whom Cena managed to beat at both Judgment Day and One Night Stand ... Cena's hot streak late in the grading period continued as he beat Jeff Hardy to decide the number-one contender to

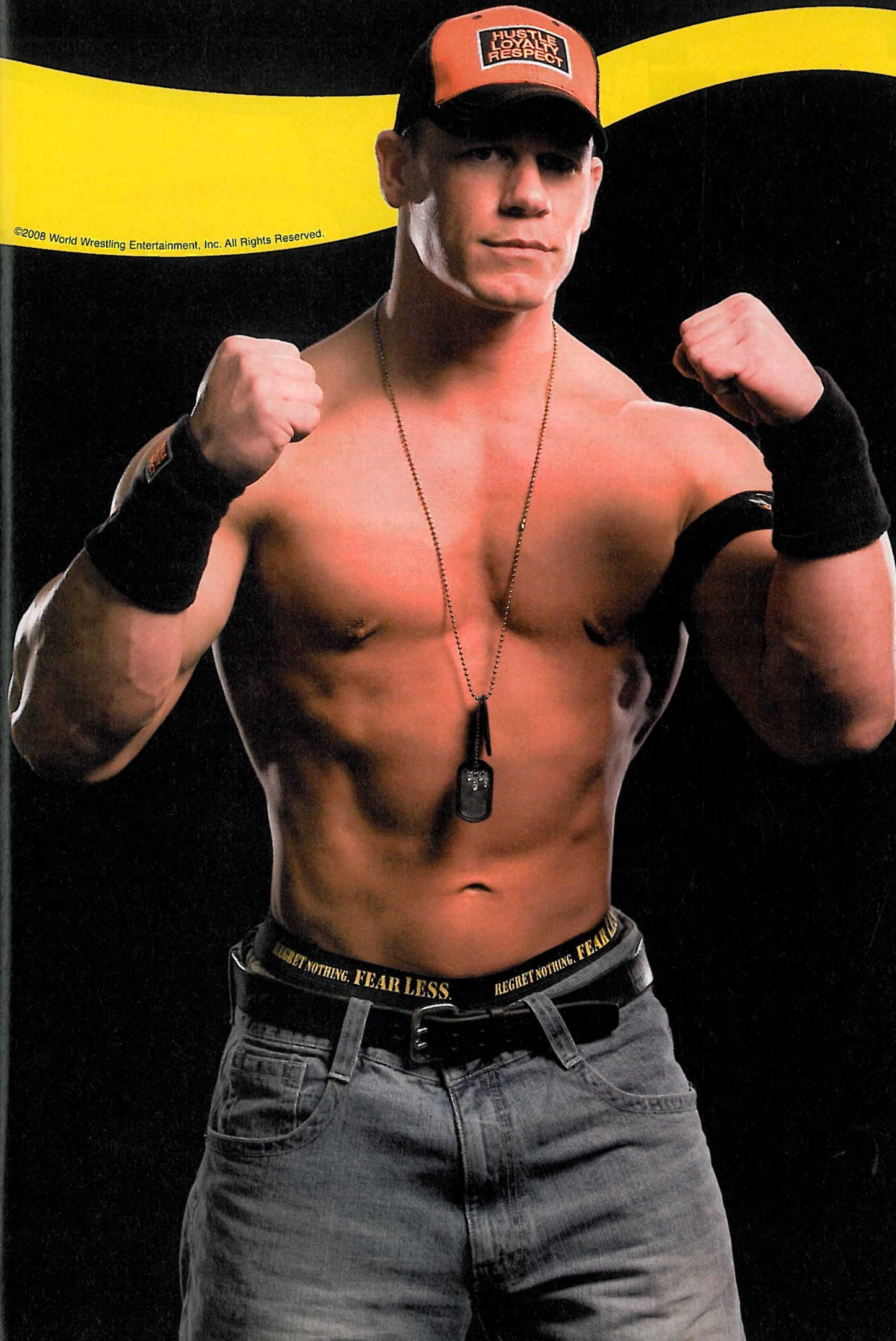
Triple-H's Raw World title, and picked up more wins against top Raw superstars, such as Umaga ... While his cheering section may still be largely comprised of fawning women and children, even some of Cena's detractors have been won over by his never-say-die attitude and commitment to improving in the ring ... Beneath the jean shorts and sneakers lies one of wrestling's proudest traditionalists and most dedicated competitors.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

It is only a matter of time before Cena is once again able to proclaim, "The Champ is here!" Having never lost the Raw World championship in the ring, Cena is hellbent on winning it back. But if this past year is any indication, even if he does win back the title, Cena may not be able to recapture the unstoppable momentum he carried from 2005 until 2007. While Cena appears to be in as great shape as ever, he may still be feeling the effects of the pectoral injury that sidelined him last fall. Still, Cena is young and well enough conditioned to reach his previous heights in due time. Having already exhausted his rivalries with Orton, Triple-H, Michaels, and Layfield, Cena would also benefit from a fresh crop of opponents to choose from. That could mean a switch to the Smackdown brand. Wherever he lands, his fans could rest easy knowing that Cena won't stray far from a wrestling ring, even as Hollywood starts to take notice of his screen presence.



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10 SHINSUKE NAKAMURA

(6'2", 245, 6, 96)

PATH TO NUMBER 10:

130 in 2006, 96 in 2007

TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR:

1. Defeated Kurt Angle by submission in February at Sumo Hall in Tokyo to unify the IWGP heavyweight and IWGP 3rd Belt titles.
2. Won the IWGP heavyweight championship from Hiroshi Tanahashi at "Wrestle Kingdom II" at the Tokyo Dome in January before 27,000 fans.
3. Again defeated his closest rival Tanahashi in a spectacular title defense at Korakuen Hall in March.
4. Excelled as leader of his faction RISE, waging war against New Japan Sekigun, Great Bash Heel (GBH), and Legend.
5. Made his first trip to TNA Wrestling in January to set up his battle with Angle, destroying Elix Skipper in four minutes.

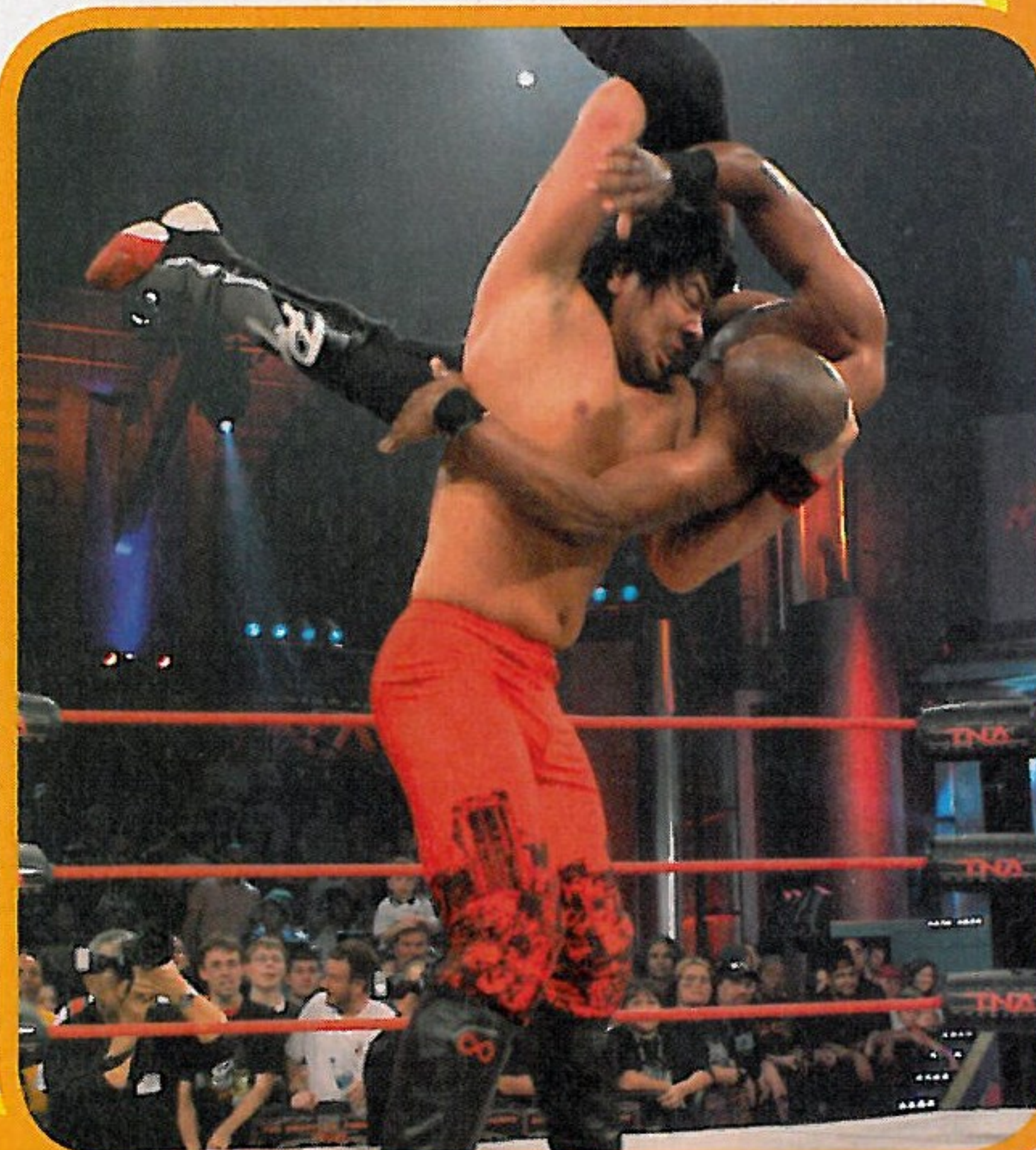
WHY HE'S NUMBER 10:

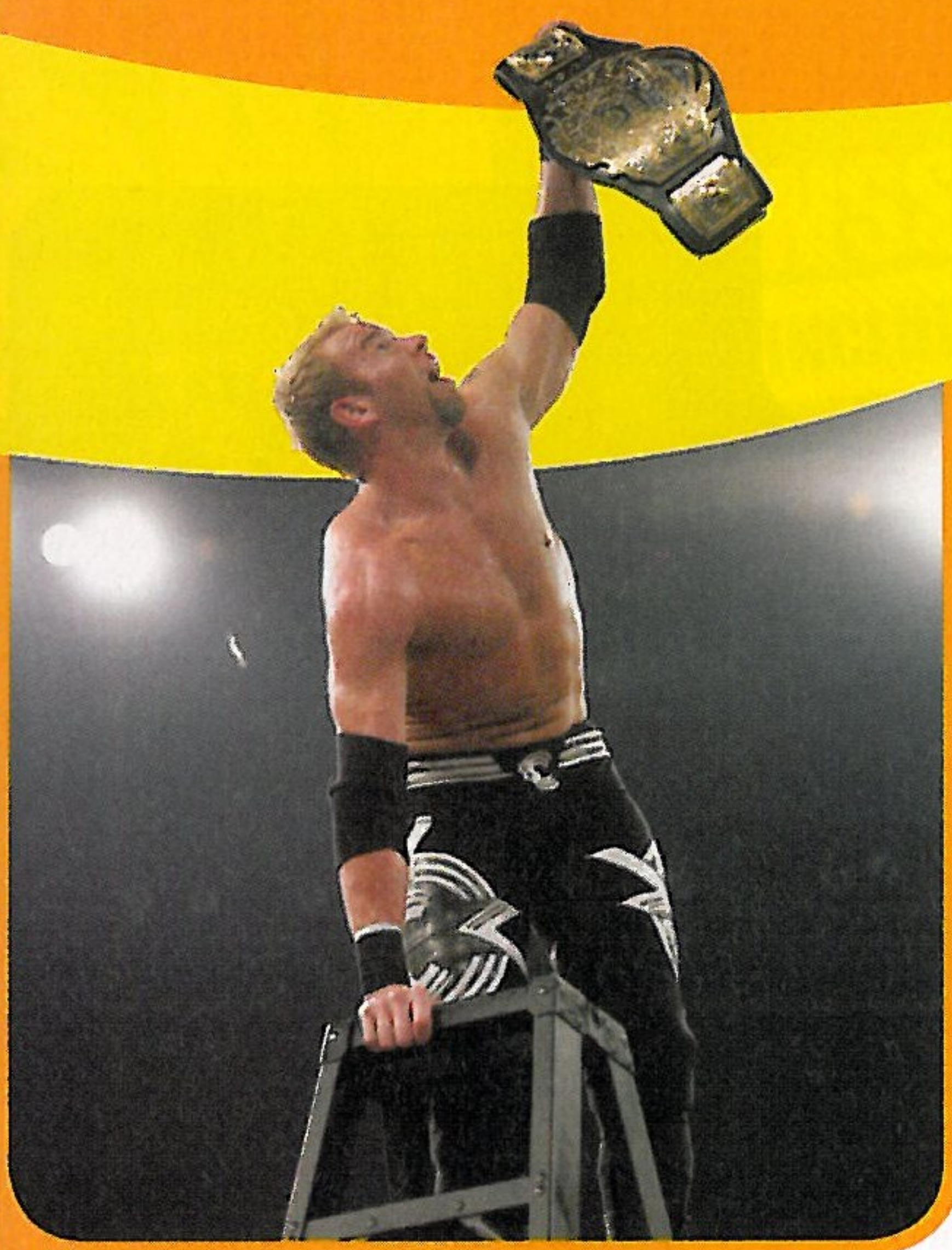
The young "Supernova" of New Japan Pro-Wrestling has over the past six years broken many traditions of Japanese professional wrestling and become one of the most decorated young stars in the country's history ... Since returning from a serious elbow injury last November, Nakamura has been almost unstoppable and is one of New Japan Pro-Wrestling's most dangerous and recognizable stars at just 28 years old ... Years of fighting it out with rival Hiroshi Tanahashi to lead their generation culminated with their biggest match to date—at the famous Tokyo Dome—in January, where Nakamura dethroned Tanahashi to win the IWGP heavyweight championship ... When Kurt Angle returned to New Japan carrying the controversial IWGP 3rd Belt he won from Brock Lesnar (who had departed New Japan with the belt), Nakamura put it all on the line by risking his "approved" IWGP heavyweight championship against Angle in a unification match ... Forced Angle to tap out to a cross armbar in front of 10,000 fans, achieving what was considered NJPW's greatest victory for many years and ending the IWGP fiasco ... Lost his unified title prematurely to legend Keiji Muto in April, but has remained a key figure as

the leader of NJPW's popular RISE faction ... He is a master of various submissions, particularly the cross armbar, but in recent times has added high-impact power moves to his arsenal, making him even more dangerous ... Preferred finishing move is the landslide, a deadly fireman's carry Michinoku driver II that he executes from the top rope in important matches.

WHERE HE'S HEADED:

Nakamura always has one thing in mind—the IWGP heavyweight championship. It's the title he dreamed about winning as a child and has now held twice. But he has yet to have a truly defining reign with it. Losing the title to an outsider, even one of New Japan origin like the legendary Keiji Muto, is something that continues to gnaw at Nakamura. He wants that title back and his eyes will be on earning a shot by winning New Japan's annual G1 Climax in August. As leader of the stylish RISE faction, comprised of himself, Hirooki Goto, Giant Bernard, Milano Collection A.T., MINORU, and Prince Devitt, he also has a war on his hands as NJPW resembles Japan's feudal period with various factions battling it out for supremacy. Also on his shoulders is the great expectation of continuing the tradition of being a fighting leader that began with Antonio Inoki and continued through the 1990s by the late Shinya Hashimoto.





11 TAKESHI MORISHIMA (6'3", 320, 10, 10) The leading figure of Pro Wrestling NOAH's new wave of young stars ... Current GHC heavyweight champion ... Frequent visits to the United States and appearances in ROH led to him capturing the ROH heavyweight championship from Homicide in February 2007 ... Defeated many of ROH's biggest names during a seven-month title reign, before finally dropping it to Nigel McGuinness last October ... Knowledge gained from wrestling in the U.S. and other countries led to him defeating the legendary Mitsuharu Misawa this March to win the GHC heavyweight championship ... A huge man in both height and weight by Japanese standards, giving him the reputation of an unstoppable monster in his homeland ... Finishes matches with a lethal backdrop suplex that sees him dump opponents unceremoniously on their head.

12 ULTIMO GUERRERO (6', 200, 18, 11) The "Last Warrior Of Its Kind" still remains one of the top rudos in Mexico ... After losing the tag team title with Dr. Wagner Jr., the men battled each other in a series of intense matches throughout the last summer ... Guerrero's alliance with veteran luchador Atlantis has created one of the most dominant stables in lucha libre, Los Guerreros

de la Atlantida ... Recaptured the CMLL tag team championship with Atlantis by defeating Mistico and Negro Casas in the fall ... After losing the title belts to Averno and Mephisto, Guerrero refocused on his singles career while he teamed up on several occasions with Atlantis and the remaining members of the stable ... Challenged Dos Caras Jr. for the CMLL heavyweight title, but was unsuccessful ... Had numerous battles with veteran luchador Blue Panther over the spring of 2008 ... Ends the majority of his matches with the moonsault falling slam.

13 BRYAN DANIELSON (5'8", 190, 7, 17) The "American Dragon" remains the American independent scene's top attraction, and a perennial contender for the ROH heavyweight championship ... His breathtaking in-ring style, which combines hard strikes, innovative submission holds, and daredevil maneuvers, has earned him the distinction of "Best In The World" by many fans ... Has spent much of the last year embroiled in a bitter feud with Takeshi Morishima ... Often battered and bloodied during these encounters, but still keeps on coming ... Has failed in repeated attempts to recapture the ROH title, including in a match against current champion Nigel McGuinness in February ... Also a regular competitor in the NWA, PWG, and FIP ... In June, Danielson made Lance Cade tap out to his signature cattle mutilation in a Raw dark match ... ROH fans are fearful WWE will make him an offer.

14 CHRISTIAN CAGE (6'1", 225, 13, 7) The "Instant Classic" has had a rocky last year in TNA since dropping the promotion's World title in May 2007 ... His 23-month undefeated streak came to an end at Bound For Glory when Samoa Joe forced him to tap out to his Kokina clutch ... Spent much of the last year in a tug of war with Kurt Angle over the services of Cage's former "Christian's Coalition" disciples, Styles and Tomko ... Both men chose to align themselves with Angle, who defeated Cage at both Final Resolution and Against All Odds ... Cage then joined with Samoa Joe and Kevin Nash to form The Unlikely Alliance, which beat The Angle Alliance in a six-man tag team match at Destination X ... Also reformed his partnership with former close friend Rhino and led a team to victory against a team led by Tomko in a "Lethal Lockdown" cage match in April.

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15 BATISTA (6'6", 318, 11, 13)

Few WWE superstars have been as consistently focused on world title gold as Raw's "Animal" ... Won the Smackdown World championship for the third time in September when he pinned former champion The Great Khali in a triple threat match that also included Rey Mysterio ... Scored his first victory over The Undertaker at Cyber Sunday in a match refereed by "Stone-Cold" Steve Austin ... Beat The Undertaker again in a "Hell In The Cell" match at Survivor Series ... Found himself out of the main-event mix come WrestleMania, where he pinned Umaga in a forgettable Raw vs. Smackdown battle for brand supremacy ... The resentment Batista harbored toward Shawn Michaels for retiring Ric Flair culminated in a bitter rivalry ... Lost to Michaels at Backlash, but defeated him in a stretcher match at One Night Stand ... Earned a Smackdown World title shot against Edge at Night of Champions.

Photo by Koichi Yoshizawa



➔ 16 KEIJI MUTO (6'2", 243, 25, 119)

Despite his advancing years and frail knees, Muto remains one of the top superstars on the Japanese circuit ... Nicknamed "Wrestling Master" and "Genius," no wrestler in Japan can match his ring presence or charisma ... As president of All Japan Pro-Wrestling, Muto returned to his old home New Japan Pro-Wrestling this April to defeat Shinsuke Nakamura and win the IWGP heavyweight title, eight years after his previous reign ... Unleashed his famous Great Muta alter ego at New Japan's January Tokyo Dome show, beating Hirooki Goto bloody en route to a dominant victory ... On home turf, fights for All Japan against rival factions Voodoo Murders and Gurentai ... Master of the shining wizard, a lethal knee attack to the head, but still utilizes his moonsault press on special occasions.

17 MISTICO (5'7", 177, 9, 3)

The 25-year-old human highlight reel is one of the most "YouTubed"

wrestlers in the sport ... Nagging injuries dropped him out of the "500" top 10 for first time in three years ... Had notable feuds against Averno and Perro Aguayo Jr. ... Won the CMLL tag team title with Negro Casas in July, but lost it to Ultimo Guerrero and Atlantis in November ... Lost the NWA middleweight title to Averno in the fall ... Captured another title in December when he defeated Vangelis for the Mexican national light heavyweight title ... Teamed with Hector Garza to win the CMLL tag team title from Averno and Mephisto ... After a controversial rematch that left the tag title vacated, Mistico and Garza regained it for a short period ... Makes opponents tap out with a move called la Mistica.

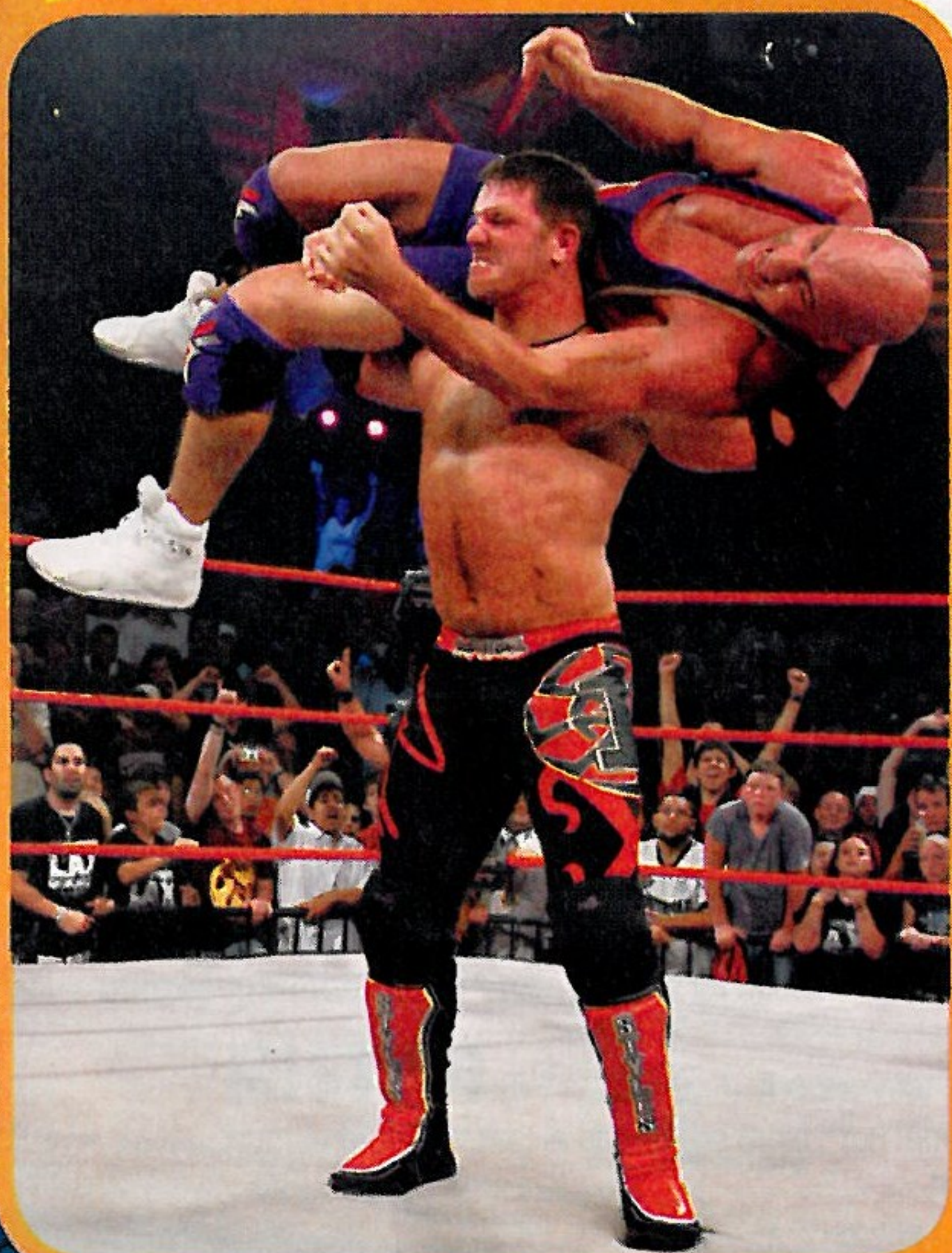
18 JEFF HARDY (6'1", 225, 15, 29)

WWE's "Rainbow Haired Warrior" saw career highs and lows over the last year, but now seems clear-headed and focused ... Held the Intercontinental championship for six months after defeating Umaga last September ... Upset Triple-H at Armageddon to earn a Raw World title shot at the Royal Rumble ... Even in defeat, the match against then-champion Randy Orton was the biggest of his career ... Beat Shawn Michaels on a February edition of Raw ... Came within a hair of winning February's "Elimination Chamber" match for a WrestleMania world title shot ... Was considered the favorite to win 'Mania's "Money In The Bank" ladder match, but was pulled from the card after violating WWE's Wellness Policy and suspended for 60 days ... During his time off, a fire destroyed Hardy's North Carolina home and claimed his dog ... Hardy returned in May, determined to get back in the title picture ... Was drafted to Smackdown in June.

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19 RIC FLAIR (6'1", 235, 35, 70) Seventeen years after debuting in the first "PWI 500" in the number-three slot, the "Nature Boy" makes his final appearance on this list—still in the top 20, no less ... The last of his 35 storied years as a pro wrestler was one of his very best, and included his induction to the WWE Hall of Fame ... After receiving an ultimatum by Mr. McMahon in November to win all his matches, or be forced to retire, Flair went on a tear—picking up victories over the next five months against top stars including Randy Orton, Umaga, Montel Vontavious Porter, and Mr. Kennedy ... At 59 years old, Flair delivered one of the great performances of his career at WrestleMania 24, but lost to close friend Shawn Michaels ... The following night, the entire WWE locker room gathered at ringside to pay homage to one of the greatest of all-time.

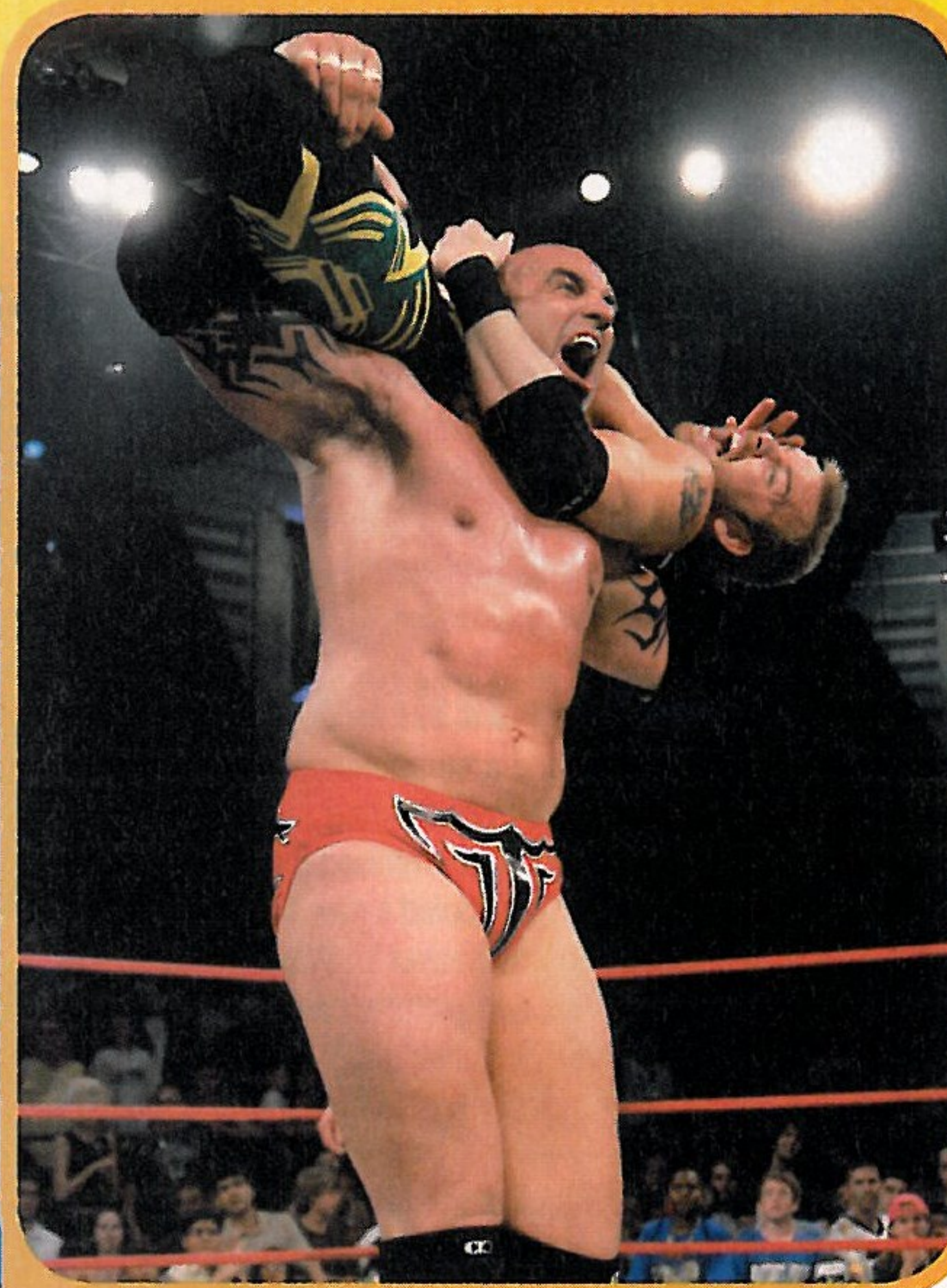
20 HIROSHI TANAHASHI (5'11", 227, 9, 40) One of the hardest working young talents in Japan, New Japan Pro Wrestling's Tanahashi enjoyed a major breakout year in 2007-2008 ... "High Flying Star" saw his second reign as IWGP champion end this January at



the Tokyo Dome with a loss to his long-time rival Shinsuke Nakamura ... Entered his mentor Keiji Muto's All Japan promotion to compete in the 2008 "Champion's Carnival," finishing as runner-up and further raising his value with outstanding individual displays ... A knee injury sidelined him in April, with his long-awaited return scheduled for NJPW's "G1 Climax" tournament in August ... Known to many U.S. fans for his appearances in TNA ... Has spoken of returning there again in future ... What he lacks in size, he makes up for in brains and skill, and has taken down bigger opponents such as Giant Bernard, Manabu Nakanishi, and Satoshi Kojima with these attributes ... Finishes matches with the high fly flow, a spectacular frog splash reminiscent of Eddie Guerrero's.

21 A.J. STYLES (5'10", 215, 11, 32) After spending much of the past year as a comedic lackey to Kurt Angle, the "Phenomenal One" seems re-focused on getting his singles career back on track and re-entering the TNA World title picture ... As members of the Christian Coalition, Styles and Tomko defeated Team Pacman at 2007's Bound For Glory to win the TNA tag team championship ... Was torn for months between his allegiance to Christian Cage and Kurt Angle's invitation to join him in the Angle Alliance ... Eventually chose to take up with Angle, who dubbed Styles the "Prince Of Phenomenal" ... Has appeared smitten at times with Angle's wife Karen ... Finally fed up with his mistreatment in the Alliance, Styles went on his own in May, and at Slammiversary defeated Angle ... Former NWA champion was forced to wear both a turkey suit and a reindeer suit within a month.

22 PERRO AGUAYO JR. (5'9", 200, 13, 8) The son of Perro Aguayo has become the most popular rudo in lucha libre ... Has gained more aggression in the ring as the leader of the stable Los Perros del Mal, ... After returning from an injury, became unstoppable, defeating the likes of Volador Jr. and Mistico ... Brought Averno and Mephisto into the Perros' stable ... Kicked Hector Garza out of the stable, which led to a hair-vs.-hair match in Arena Mexico ... With the help of his comrades, Perro shaved the head of Hector Garza, adding another mane to his collection ... Due to the split with Garza, the CMLL trios title held by Aguayo and the Perros was vacated ... Saved his hair in several matches, including a triple-threat hair match and a 10-man cage match ... Finishes his matches with la lanza.



23 MONTEL VONTAVIOUS PORTER (6'3", 252, 5, 47) The "Power Ranger" chants have long ago stopped and MVP has quickly earned a reputation as a world champion in the making ... Had the third-longest U.S. title reign in WWE history—holding the belt for nearly a year from when he beat Chris Benoit for it in May of 2007 until losing it to Matt Hardy at April's Backlash ... Porter and Hardy were reluctant, but extremely successful, partners in 2007—wearing Smackdown's World tag team championship for several months ... Finally gave up on his partnership with Hardy and brutally attacked him during an episode of Smackdown in November, putting Hardy on the sidelines for months ... Hoped to be the man to retire the great Ric Flair, but ended up tapping out to Flair's figure-four at the Royal Rumble ... Having spent nine years in prison, Porter is determined to make up for lost time.

24 C.M. PUNK (6'1", 220, 10, 42) In his second year with WWE, the "Straightedge Superstar" won (and lost) the ECW title, captured "Money In The Bank" at WrestleMania 24, challenged and defeated Edge for his world title, and brought the Smackdown's World title

to Raw after being drafted to the red brand ... Defeated John Morrison for the ECW championship last September and successfully defended the title against various opponents, including Big Daddy V, The Miz, and Elijah Burke, before losing it to Chavo Guerrero in January ... Prevailed over four other WWE superstars to win this year's "Money In The Bank" ladder match at WrestleMania 24 ... Used his free world title shot to pin Edge, who had just been pummeled by Batista ... Unique offense includes various martial arts strikes, kicks, and submissions, as well as his GTS finisher—a fireman's carry-knee lift combo.

25 TOMKO (6'6", 292, 6, 100) After years of standing quietly behind Christian Cage with his arms crossed, the longtime "problem solver" has started to realize his potential as a bona fide star in TNA and overseas ... Simultaneously held tag team championships in TNA and New Japan during 2007 ... Captured TNA's tag team championship with former Christian's Coalition partner A.J. Styles in a match against Ron Killings and Consequences Creed at Bound for Glory ... Successfully defended the tag team championship with Styles for six months, including against the Latin American Exchange, The Steiner Brothers, and Samoa Joe and Kevin Nash ... Claimed he would go on his own after deciding against aligning with either Cage or Angle, but before long the intimidating big man started watching Angle's back and frequently teaming with him ... Unsuccessfully led a team in a "Lethal Lockdown" cage match against a team led by Cage.

26 MESIAS (6'1", 245, 11, 206) The Puerto Rican native has been very successful over the last year ... Dropped the Muerte Cibernetica name and began a long feud with Cibernetico and the AAA Luchadores ... Mesias and his La Secta faction joined Konnan's Foreign Legion, creating an indestructible stable ... Became the first-ever AAA heavyweight champion, defeating Chessman in the finals of an AAA tournament ... Suffered an injury during the finals and missed several weeks ... Later joined TNA as Judas Mesias and began a short feud with Abyss, which culminated in a "Barb-Wire Massacre" ... After being absent from the lucha scene, Mesias returned to AAA to defend his title, but lost it to Cibernetico ... Has tried to regain the title, but instead got into a feud with Vampiro ... Uses a leaping reverse STO as his finisher.

19 TO 26

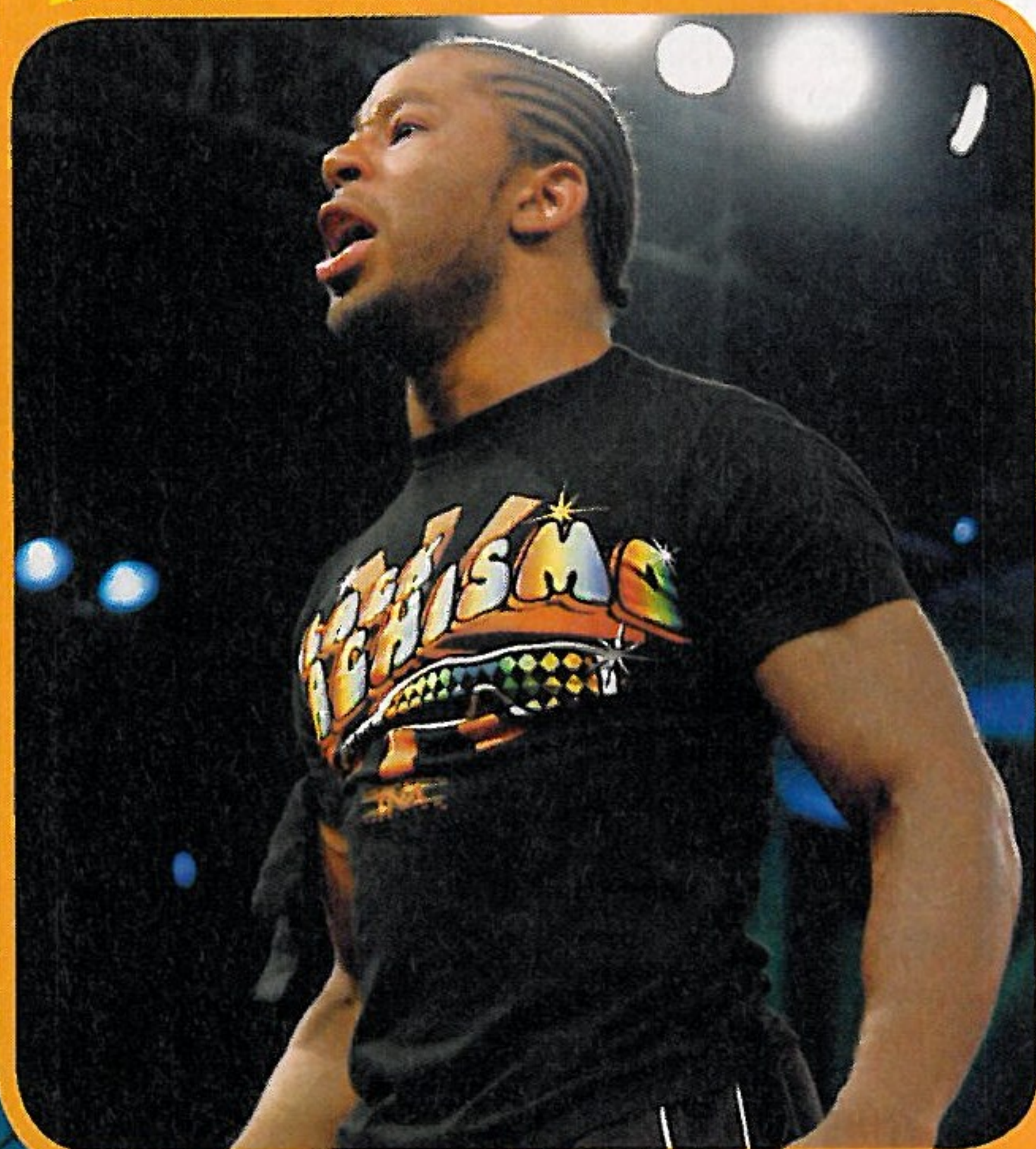
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27 JAY LETHAL (5'9", 192, 6, 95)

"Black Machismo" has almost single-handedly kept the X division alive over the last year, while also adding a bit of "madness" to his ring persona ... *Oh yeah* ... Won his second X division title in September by upsetting Kurt Angle at No Surrender ... Retained the title against Christopher Daniels at Bound For Glory ... Was named X division Wrestler of the Year in January by TNA ... Fought alongside The Motor City Machine Guns in their war to defend the X division from an assault by Team 3D ... Was honored by fellow X division wrestlers and Jim Cornette in an in-ring ceremony in February, during which Lethal proposed to his girlfriend, So Cal Val ... Lost the title to Petey Williams in April ... Was prepared to tie the knot with Val at Slammiversary when the ceremony was interrupted by his former friend Sonjay Dutt ... Garden State native sometimes competes in Jersey All Pro Wrestling.

28 DR. WAGNER JR. (5'9", 220, 22, 48)

The son of Dr. Wagner Sr. has been incredibly popular in CMLL, and has become one of the crowd's top favorites ... Got into an intense rivalry with Ultimo Guerrero, after they lost the CMLL tag team title to Negro Casas and Mistico ... Wagner was involved in an exciting feud with L.A.



Park, but nothing important came of it ... Walked out of CMLL, claiming the promotion mistreated him ... Became an independent luchador and started wrestling all over Mexico, scoring important victories over Hijo del Santo and Blue Demon Jr. ... Successfully defended his UWA heavyweight title against Fuerza Guerrera, Universo 2000, and Ultimo Guerrero ... Returned to CMLL to start feuds with Atlantis and Mr. Niebla ... Signature move is the Wagner driver.

29 CHRIS JERICHO (6', 231, 18, NL)

Made a comeback in November after a two-year-plus absence from the ring ... His return followed weeks of cryptic videos that promised that someone was coming to "save us" ... Y2J debuted a new finisher upon his return that he dubbed the codebreaker ... Wasted no time injecting himself in the world title picture, calling out Raw champ Randy Orton in his very first night back ... Beat Orton by disqualification at Armageddon after John Bradshaw Layfield attacked Jericho—leading to a feud between the two ... Won a record eighth Intercontinental title by defeating Jeff Hardy in March ... Interjected himself in a dispute between Shawn Michaels and Batista, refereeing a match between the two enemies ... Lost to Michaels at Judgment Day ... Brutally assaulted Michaels during a "Highlight Reel" interview segment—sending him face first through a TV screen ... Lost the I-C belt to Kofi Kingston at Night of Champions in June after Michaels' interference cost Jericho the match.

30 KENSUKE SASAKI (5'11", 254, 22, 57)

Recently launched his own part-time promotion named Kensuke Office to showcase his trainees and unique matches ... Known for his willingness to work all over, in promotions both large and small, and is always on the move, appearing in such promotions as Pro Wrestling NOAH and All Japan Pro-Wrestling frequently ... Revived his Power Warrior alter ego last September, teaming with Road Warrior Animal as a tribute to both men's late tag partner, Road Warrior Hawk ... An eight-month reign as All Japan's Triple Crown holder ended in April, but Sasaki remains at the top of the Japanese circuit ... Regularly teams with his protégé, Katsuhiko Nakajima ... Makes many TV and media appearances with his wife, former wrestler Akira Hokuto ... One of the toughest power wrestlers in Japan, utilizing high-impact moves such as the lariat and northern lights bomb to great effect.

21 TO 30



➔ 31 AUSTIN ARIES (5'9", 202, 7, 102)

Cornerstone competitor of Ring of Honor saw a full year of action in the promotion following an unremarkable stint in TNA ... Spent much of 2007 embroiled in faction warfare pitting his stable, The Resilience, against that of former friend Roderick Strong—The No Remorse Corps ... The rivalry culminated in a grudge match between Aries and Strong at ROH's fourth pay-per-view, "Undeniable," which Aries won ... Unsuccessfully challenged Nigel McGuinness for the ROH heavyweight championship at "Rising Above," and again at "Supercard Of Honor" ... His growing frustrations drew the attention of Jimmy Jacobs and his Age of the Fall faction, which sought to recruit Aries ... He ended up turning down the offer and stealing away Jacobs' girlfriend, Lacey ... Was chosen by ROH tag team champion Jay Briscoe to replace his injured brother in defending the championship against Jacobs and Tyler Black in New York City in May.

32 CIBERNETICO (6'1", 175, 16, 26)

The self-proclaimed "God Of Lucha Libre" is today's most popular AAA wrestler ... Crowds chants his name at any wrestler he's feuding with—even if he's not in the match ... After returning from a serious knee injury that left him sidelined for weeks, he took the hair of Dark Spiritu during a domed-cage match in September ... Cibernetico and the Hell Brothers (Charly Manson and Chessman) had an extended feud with Mesias and Konnan's Foreign Legion ... Earned a shot at Mesias' AAA heavyweight title in November, but lost ... Suffered major burns that put him out of action for a couple of months ... Finally captured the AAA heavyweight title by defeating Mesias in April ... Recently feuded with Zorro, the fastest rising heel in Mexico ... Uses the chokeslam to end his matches.

33 KANE (6'7", 326, 14, 65)

Veteran big man found a home in WWE's C-brand, ECW, where he wore the heavyweight championship before returning to Raw thanks to the 2008 Draft ... Feuded with Finlay last summer, culminating in a match at SummerSlam that was won by the "Big Red Machine" ... Started making regular appearances on the Sci Fi Channel as part of Smackdown's talent exchange program with ECW in the fall ... Feuded with the likes of fellow monsters Big Daddy V and Mark Henry ... Won

a 20-man battle royal at WrestleMania 24 to decide the challenger to Chavo Guerrero's ECW championship later that night ... He defeated Guerrero in nine seconds to capture the title ... Defeated Guerrero again in a rematch at Backlash ... Teamed with C.M. Punk in an unsuccessful bid for the Smackdown World tag team championship against The Miz and John Morrison at Judgment Day ... Dropped the ECW title to Mark Henry in a triple threat match at Night of Champions that also featured The Big Show.

34 BOOKER T (6'3", 250, 18, 18)

Multiple-time world champion began a new chapter late in his career by joining TNA in November ... Lost to Triple-H at SummerSlam 2007 in one of Booker's final matches with WWE ... Debuted as Sting's mystery partner at Genesis against Kevin Nash and Kurt Angle ... Spent most of the next six months feuding with Robert Roode, who accidentally broke the jaw of Booker's wife Sharmell at Turning Point ... Lost to TNA World champion Kurt Angle thanks to interference by Roode in February ... Beat Roode in a strap match at Destination X ... Turned against Christian Cage and Rhino—as well as TNA fans—at Sacrifice ... Unsuccessfully competed in a "King Of The Mountain" match for the TNA World championship at Slammiversary ... Challenged Samoa Joe for the title at Victory Road ... Continues to operate and compete in his Texas-based Pro Wrestling Alliance.



35 KEN KENNEDY (6'2", 243, 9, 21)

Following a number of false starts in 2007, Smackdown's resident big mouth seems on track for big things ... After returning from an injury last summer, was considered the most likely candidate to be announced as the illegitimate son of Mr. McMahon ... Instead, Kennedy was suspended for a month for violating the WWE Wellness Policy ... Faced Raw World champion John Cena in the October match in which the champ tore his pectoral muscle ... Feuded with Shawn Michaels late last year, and lost to HBK at Armageddon ... Returned the favor by eliminating Michaels in the Royal Rumble ... Was defeated by Ric Flair at No Way Out ... Was unable to repeat his 2007 victory in the "Money In The Bank" ladder match at this year's installment ... Won fans over in May by beating William Regal in a loser-gets-fired match ... Was involved in a rivalry with Paul Birchall over the summer.

36 CHAVO GUERRERO JR. (5'7", 210, 15, 46)

Youngest member of the celebrated Guerrero wrestling clan has become a major player in WWE over the first half of 2008 ... Lost to a returning Rey Mysterio

Jr. at SummerSlam of last year, and lost again to him in a violent "I Quit" match in which Mysterio attacked Guerrero's knee with a steel chair ... Was off the radar for several months until showing up at an episode of ECW and attacking the brand's champion, C.M. Punk ... Defeated Punk for the ECW championship in a no-disqualification match in January ... Retained the title against Punk at the Royal Rumble ... Lost the title to Kane at WrestleMania ... Hired a bodyguard in the form of Bam Neely to help take on Kane ... Along with Neely, Edge, his aunt Vickie Guerrero, Curt Hawkins, and Zack Ryder, formed La Familia—a tightly knit stable of wrestling power brokers.

37 UMAGA (6'4", 348, 9, 22)

"Samoan Bulldozer" is looking to raze some new opponents since being recently drafted to Smackdown ... Held the Intercontinental championship for three months last summer before losing it to Jeff Hardy ... Was attacked by a sledgehammer-wielding Triple-H in September and put on the sidelines for a month ... Lost an impromptu Raw World title match against Triple-H at No Mercy after Triple-H won the title earlier in the night ... Took part in a six-man "Elimination Chamber" match at No Way Out with a WrestleMania world title shot on the line ... Represented Raw in a losing effort against Smackdown's Batista in a battle for brand supremacy at WrestleMania ... Competed in a number of exciting matches with Jeff Hardy, including a wild falls-count-anywhere match at One Night Stand that was won by Hardy ... Despite his unsophisticated look and savage ring style, Umaga is one of WWE's more capable big men.

➔ 38 ROBERT ROODE (6', 230, 10, 71)

Former bit player in the ill-fated Team Canada has come into his own as one of the more promising TNA originals ... Lost to Samoa Joe in a grudge match at Genesis ... Called out veteran wrestling star Booker T upon his arrival in TNA, launching a lengthy feud ... The feud intensified when Roode accidentally broke the jaw of Booker T's wife, Sharmell, and then attempted to justify his actions ... Lost to Booker T in a number of singles and mixed tag team matches ... After months of mistreating Traci Brooks, Roode fired her in January and hired the petite Payton Banks ... Lost in a "King Of The Mountain" match for the TNA World championship at Slammiversary ... Has teamed with James Storm on occasion ... Throwback wrestling villain uses a fisherman suplex dubbed the payoff to finish opponents.

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39 SUWAMA (6'2", 265, 4, NL)

Reigning Triple Crown champion is All Japan Pro Wrestling's shining hope for the future ... Won the 2008 "Champion Carnival" by defeating New Japan's Hiroshi Tanahashi in the final ... Shortly after took the Triple Crown from Kensuke Sasaki ... Still only four years into his career, this big former amateur wrestling star has made quick progress to reach the top of AJPW ... Became a villain for the first time in his career in 2007, joining Voodoo Murders, but cleaned up his act to begin 2008 and rejoined All Japan's home team ... Former mentor and current All Japan President Keiji Muto punished Suwama for his past indecencies by refusing to allow him to use his first name "Kohei" again ... Uses the last ride to finish matches, but also has some expertise with submissions, occasionally winning with an anklelock.

40 JOHN BRADSHAW LAYFIELD (6'6", 290, 16, NL)

WWE's self-proclaimed "Wrestling God" returned to the ring late last year on the Raw brand after a 19-month retirement ... Left his position at the Smackdown announcers' table to attack Chris Jericho during a Raw World title match against Randy Orton at Armageddon ... Was embroiled in a blood feud with Jericho that culminated at the Royal Rumble, where JBL beat Y2J by disqualification ... Beat Finlay at WrestleMania 24 in a



Photo by Koichi Yoshizawa

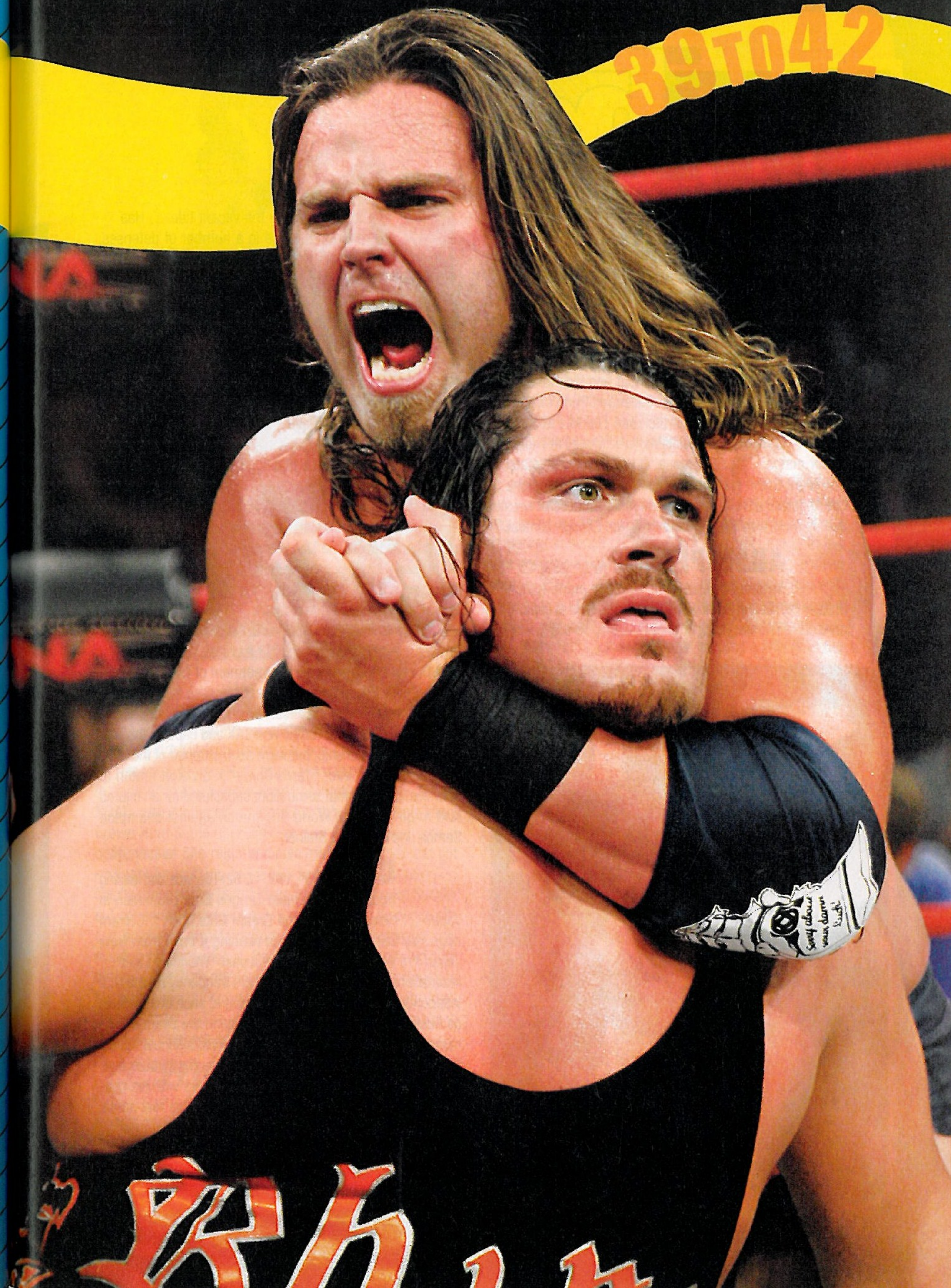
"Belfast Brawl" that came about after Layfield hospitalized Hornswoggle and revealed that the leprechaun was Finlay's son, and not Mr. McMahon's ... Took part in a fatal four-way elimination match for the Raw World title at Backlash ... Blamed John Cena for losing the match, then took on Cena at both Judgment Day and One Night Stand ... He lost both matches ... Rough and tumble Texan utilizes a devastating lariat that he calls the clothesline from hell.

41 MATT HARDY (6'1", 213, 14, 36)

The Cameron, North Carolina, native finds himself as ECW's top star after being drafted to the brand in June ... Spent much of the past year entangled with Montel Vontavious Porter—first as Smackdown tag team champion partners and later as bitter rivals ... Missed nearly five months of action after MVP attacked him following their title loss to The Miz and John Morrison ... He later learned that his inflamed appendix had burst ... Made a surprise return during WrestleMania 24's "Money In The Bank" ladder match, giving MVP a twist of fate off the ladder ... Defeated MVP to capture the U.S. title at April's Backlash ... Reunited with brother Jeff in a losing effort against The Miz and Morrison at a June Raw ... As a result of the loss, ECW got a draft pick and brought Hardy over to WWE's third brand.

42 JAMES STORM (6', 245, 7, 82)

TNA's resident cowboy has gone on a beer-fueled tear since splitting with his America's Most Wanted partner Chris Harris ... Spent several months feuding with Eric Young for bragging rights to the claim of TNA's best drinker ... A TNA "Beer Drinking" championship was even created, and traded back and forth between the two men ... Storm finally won the title from Young in a ladder match in February ... After the match, Storm's former foe Rhino returned from a lengthy hiatus seeking revenge on Storm ... Rhino defeated Storm in an Elevation X match at Destination X ... Was paired with Sting in the "Deuces Wild" tag team tournament and lost to Team 3D at Sacrifice ... Was set to challenge LAX for the tag team championship with his sometimes partner Robert Roode ... Competed in the very first TNA event in 2002.



39 TO 42

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43 JOHN MORRISON (6', 204, 5, 56)

WWE's "Shaman Of Sexy" had a career-making year since splitting with his M-N-M partners in 2007 ... Successfully defended the ECW championship for three months before losing it to C.M. Punk in September ... Captured the Smackdown World tag team championship with former foe The Miz in November and still held it as of press time ... Unsuccessfully challenged Punk for the title in a triple threat match that included The Miz at Survivor Series ... Competed in WrestleMania's "Money In The Bank" ladder match ... Took part in a "Singapore Cane" match at One Night Stand featuring only former ECW champions ... Los Angeles native is probably the most successful wrestler ever to have won WWE's defunct *Tough Enough* contest.

44 ADAM PEARCE (6'2", 233, 12, 167)

Veteran independent wrestler made history in October by beating Brent Albright in Puerto Rico to capture the revered NWA heavyweight championship in the finals of a

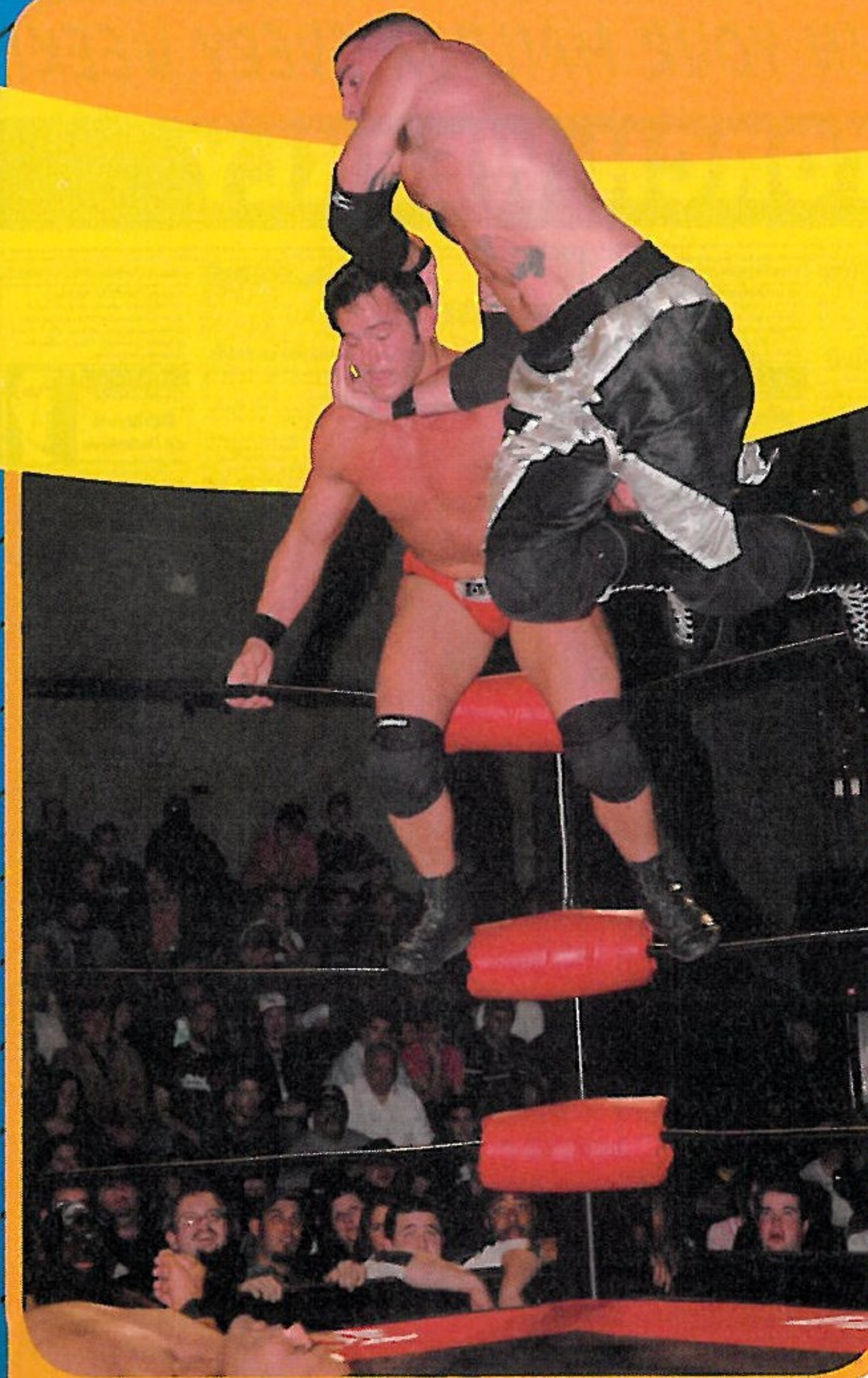
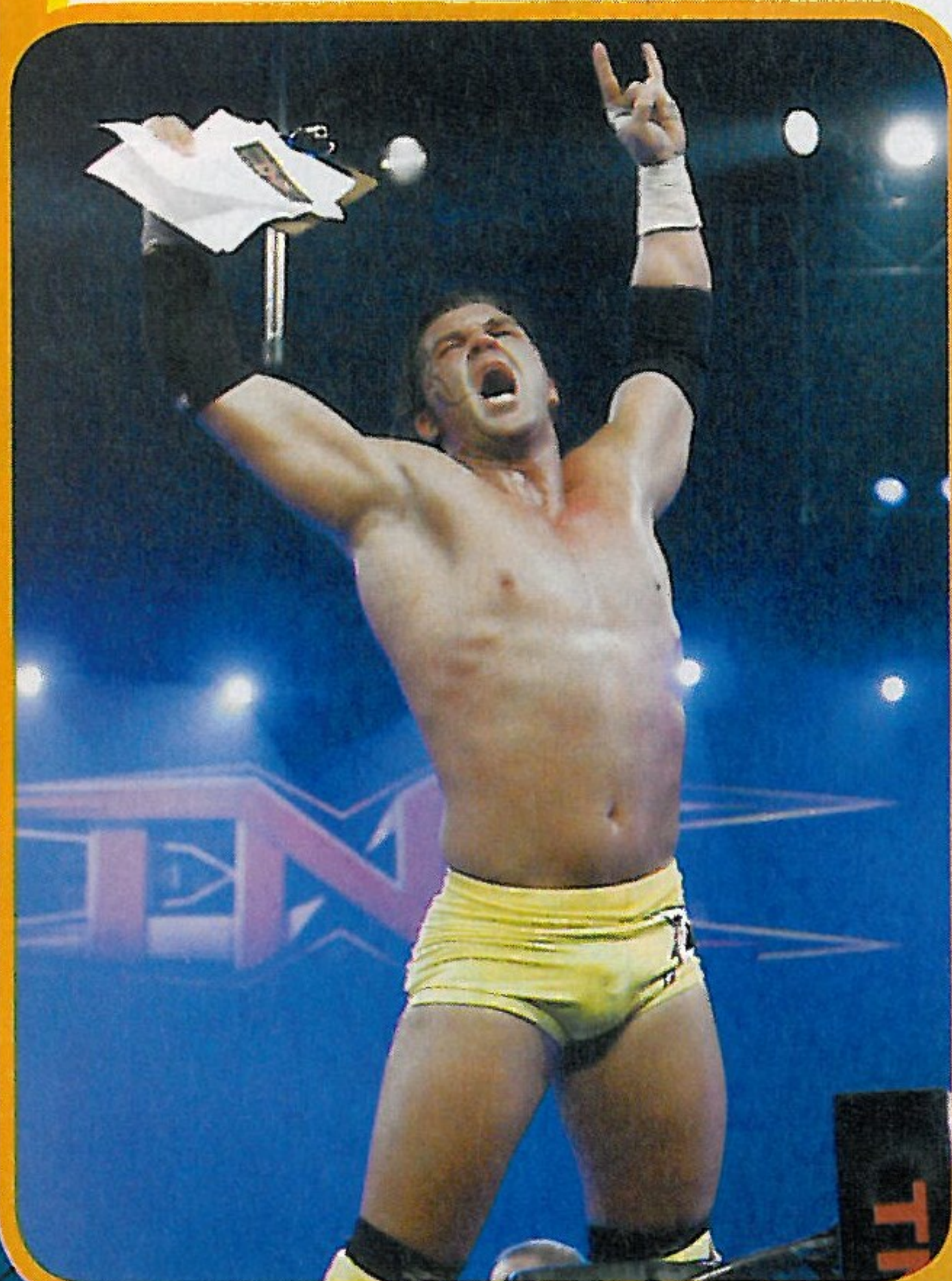
tournament for the vacant title ... Has retained the title in a number of defenses, including against Sean Waltman and Sicodelico Jr. ... Remains a Machiavellian presence in Ring of Honor, where his Hangmen Three stable wreaked havoc until he disbanded it to join Larry Sweeney's Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. in March ... Was managed by Baby Doll in a 60-minute draw against Damien Wayne in May ... Took part in a historic champion-vs.-champion match against ROH titleholder Nigel McGuinness in June ... McGuinness appeared to have won the match, but was disqualified for tossing Pearce over the top rope ... "Scrap Iron's" classic wrestling style and smarmy persona has made him one of wrestling's true traditionalists.

45 KAZ (6'1" 215, 10, 229)

Longtime TNA X division wrestler has broken through as a legit contender to the TNA World championship ... Scored his biggest victory to date when he defeated Christian Cage in a spectacular ladder match in the finals of the "Fight For The Right" tournament at Genesis ... Parlayed the win into a TNA World championship match against Kurt Angle on *Impact* ... Took Angle to the limit, but lost ... Briefly feuded with Robert Roode over his mistreatment of Traci Brooks ... Feuded with Black Reign and beat him in a "Capture The Rat" match in February ... Teamed with "Super" Eric Young to beat A.J. Styles and Tomko and LAX and capture the TNA tag team championship, but were soon stripped of the belts ... Won the first ever "TerrorDome" X division match at Sacrifice and later that same night substituted for an injured Kurt Angle in a TNA World title match against champion Samoa Joe and Scott Steiner.

46 CIMA (5'8", 183, 11, 52)

The face and leading figure of the popular Dragon Gate promotion in Japan ... Holds the Open the Dream Gate title ... Current reign has lasted one year since winning it back from New Japan Pro Wrestling's legendary Jushin "Thunder" Liger ... Internationally recognized ... Appears frequently on the U.S. independent scene, while also trekking to such destinations as Australia and Mexico, trying to expand the Dragon Gate name ... During a trip to the U.S., won PWG's annual "Battle Of Los Angeles" tournament in 2007 ... Captivates fans around the globe, breaking language barriers with his charisma and skills ... Wrestled in WCW, using his real name, Shiima Nobunaga ... Has an animated arsenal of moves ... Preferred finisher is the schwein, a side tombstone piledriver.



47 MINORU SUZUKI (5'10", 225, 21, 14)

Former mixed martial arts star returned to pro wrestling in 2003 representing his long-time home Pancrase ... Has taken the scene by storm since then, capturing titles in each of Japan's three major promotions: New Japan, NOAH, and All Japan ... Held AJPW's prestigious Triple Crown from September 2006 to July 2007 in what was a controversial title reign because his unique style did not compare to anything previously seen in the promotion ... Finally dropped the belt to long-time rival Kensuke Sasaki, but continues to explore every corner of the Japanese circuit, appearing anywhere from major shows to obscure indy events in warehouses ... Recently celebrated both his 40th birthday and 20th anniversary as a wrestler by promoting his own show at Korakuen Hall, inviting wrestlers from across Japan ... The master of submissions specializes in the choke sleeperhold.

48 PETEY WILLIAMS (5'7", 180, 9, 93)

Compact TNA scrapper has added some muscle and brashness to his persona since coming under the tutelage of Scott Steiner ... Captured one of four brief-

cases up for grabs at Turning Point's "Feast Or Fired" match ... Wound up getting a guaranteed world title shot when he and Steiner traded cases ... Lost the title shot to Steiner at Against All Odds ... Steiner ended up taking Williams on as a protégé and helped him win a three-way match to determine the number-one contender to the X division belt ... After completing a number of rituals as part of Steiner's "initiation" process, "Little Petey Pump" beat Jay Lethal to capture the X division title in April ... Recovered from an orbital bone injury in time to successfully defend the title against Kaz at Slammiversary ... Ontario native's Canadian destroyer flip piledriver seems to defy gravity.

49 JAY BRISCOE (6'1", 206, 8, 78)

Partner in what some consider the best duo in wrestling continues to excel in ROH even during his brother's temporary absence ... With Mark, has held the ROH tag team championship five times, including three reigns since February 2007 ... Took part in a wild and bloody feud with El Generico and Kevin Steen last year that culminated in a brutal "ladder war" in the main event of ROH's third pay-per-view, "Man Up" ... A month after winning a fifth ROH tag title, Mark Briscoe suffered a wrist injury that forced Jay to go at it alone ... Partnered with Austin Aries and successfully defended the championship against Tyler Black and Jimmy Jacobs in May ... After the match, Briscoe relinquished the belts ... Has seen some singles action in his brother's absence, including against Claudio Castagnoli, Erick Stevens, and Brent Albright.

50 MARK BRISCOE (6'1", 198, 8, 84)

Younger half of ROH's supremely exciting Briscoe Brothers has spent much of 2008 on the shelf thanks to a wrist injury ... Defended the ROH tag team championship with brother Jay for 10 months in 2007, before dropping them to the Age of the Fall's Jimmy Jacobs and Tyler Black at December's Final Battle 2007 in New York City ... Won the belts back on April 18 ... On the following night, the Briscoes defeated visiting TNA tag team The Motor City Machine Guns ... After the match, The Age of the Fall attacked Mark Briscoe, injuring his wrist and causing him to take an extended leave from the ring ... Astoundingly athletic Delaware native executes a surreal springboard doomsday device with his brother that usually ends their matches ... Briscoes were second runners-up in 2007 PW/Tag Team of the Year balloting.

43 TO 50



51 THE BIG SHOW (7'2", 485, 13, 35)

The man billed as the "World's Largest Athlete" returned to WWE after a 14-month hiatus, looking not nearly as large ... A 100-pound slimmer Show made instant headlines upon his return when he got involved in a skirmish at February's No Way Out with professional boxer Floyd Mayweather ... Mayweather broke Show's nose during the show, leading to a highly publicized match at WrestleMania 24 that Show lost ... Transitioned into a brief feud with the one man who could challenge Show's claim as WWE's resident giant—The Great Khali ... Defeated the Punjabi behemoth at Backlash ... Suffered a serious eye injury on his way to winning a five-man "Singapore Cane" match at One Night Stand that made him the number-one contender to Kane's ECW title.

52 CLAUDIO CASTAGNOLI (6'5", 238, 7, 67)

Immensely popular Swiss big man

has broken through as one of the most serious threats to the ROH championship ... Has spent much of the past year embroiled in an often-frustrating feud with Larry Sweeney and his Sweet 'n' Sour Inc., battling the likes of Chris Hero and Adam Pearce ... In May, faced ROH champion Nigel McGuinness in the main event of one of the biggest shows in company history ... Scored a major upset in his first-ever match with ROH sensation "American Dragon" Bryan Danielson in June ... Uses an innovative, European-inspired offense that includes his cross-armed power bomb finisher, the Ricola bomb ... "Double C" has frequently competed in CHIKARA and Japan's Pro Wrestling NOAH in the last year.

53 GIANT BERNARD (6'6", 331, 11, 105)

The former Prince Albert and A-Train continues to star as the top foreign wrestler in Japan for New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Reigns as IWGP tag team champion with Tomko for almost one year, the two winning the G1 Tag League while still champions ... He and Tomko finally lost the belts to Togi Makabe and Toru Yano this February at Sumo Hall in Tokyo ... Saw Tomko leave New Japan after their title loss ... As a member of the RISE faction, Bernard has plenty of allies, often teaming with the group leader Shinsuke Nakamura ... Reached the final of this year's New Japan Cup, hoping to repeat his 2006 tournament victory, but fell just short by losing to Hiroshi Tanahashi in a close final ... His most lethal finisher is the Bernard driver, a deadly sit-out reverse piledriver.

54 THE MIZ (6'1", 210, 5, 148)

The obnoxious roving host of Smackdown has risen to become one of WWE's brightest young stars and one-half of the second-longest reigning Smackdown tag team champions in history ... Former *Real World* cast member and *Tough Enough* contestant was picked by fans among three possible choices to challenge C.M. Punk for the ECW championship at Cyber Sunday ... He lost that match ... In November, teamed with fellow ECW competitor John Morrison to capture the Smackdown World tag team title from Matt Hardy and MVP ... The Miz and Morrison both lost a triple threat ECW title match against Punk at Survivor Series ... Successfully defended the tag team championship with Morrison against Punk and Kane at Judgment Day.

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55 WILLIAM REGAL (5'10", 255, 25, 77) After a quarter-century in the sport, the technically savvy Englishman seemed poised for the biggest run of his career this year, but a violation of the WWE Wellness Policy, and resulting suspension, have gotten in the way of his late-career prime ... Won an over-the-top battle royal in August of 2007 to become the new general manager of Raw ... His disreputable tactics as GM included getting Triple-H disqualified in a match with Ric Flair by hitting Flair with brass knuckles ... His power trip got completely out of hand when Regal won the "King Of The Ring" tournament ... As Raw GM and King, Regal went as far as to have the show go to black during a TV main event ... His reign of terror ended when Ken Kennedy beat him in a loser-gets-fired match in May.

56 FINLAY (5'10", 230, 30, 33) Fighting Irishman is the most experienced full-time member of the WWE roster, and still has a lot of fight even as he turns 50 this year ... Showed a softer side by coming to the aid of the pint-sized Hornswoggle when he was bullied by The Great Khali ... Scored an upset win against the massive Khali at Armageddon ... Took part in the "Elimination Chamber" match to decide a challenger for the Smackdown World title at WrestleMania ... Was revealed by John Bradshaw Layfield to be the real father of Hornswoggle,



Photo by Koichi Yoshizawa

leading to a "Belfast Brawl" between Finlay and JBL at WrestleMania ... Teamed with Hornswoggle to try to capture the Smackdown World tag team championship from The Miz and John Morrison at Night of Champions ... Got drafted to ECW with Hornswoggle in June.

57 YUJI NAGATA (6', 238, 16, 20) One of the most technically gifted wrestlers in the world ... "Mr. IWGP" reigned as IWGP heavyweight champion for a second time until last October, when he was dethroned by young rival Hiroshi Tanahashi ... Finally tackled his good friend Kurt Angle this January in a long-awaited dream match, taking the Olympian to his limits before falling ... Early this year had a major scare with fears of brain abnormalities, forcing him to miss a key match with Hirooki Goto in February ... Got the all-clear and returned in May ... Targeting a third IWGP reign, but still working his way back into full form ... Continues to utilize his famous Nagata-lock chain of submission holds ... The fourth installment recently added is a modified arm-trap crossface hold.

58 CHRIS HERO (6'3", 211, 10, 49) Goofball charter member of Larry Sweeney's Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. continues to ply his trade in ROH as well as various independent groups in the U.S. and Europe ... Won ROH's "Survival Of The Fittest" tournament in October 2007 to earn an ROH title shot ... Lost to ROH champion Nigel McGuinness the following month ... Lost again in a steel cage rematch with McGuinness in January ... Represented Sweeney in his lengthy war with Claudio Castagnoli ... Teamed with Adam Pearce in a tournament to crown new ROH tag team champions in May ... A regular competitor in promotions including CHIKARA, PWG, and IPW: UK, where he lost in what was billed as a "dream match" with one of Hero's heroes, English great Johnny Saint.



59 REY MYSTERIO JR. (5'6", 165, 19, NL) The smallest man ever to wear a WWE world championship has suffered a string of physical setbacks that have stalled a return to his past greatness ... Returned from a 10-month absence last August and targeted Chavo Guerrero Jr. ... Later feuded with Finlay, whom he beat in a stretcher match at Cyber Sunday ... Had an exciting match against Edge for the Smackdown World title at the Royal Rumble, but came up short ... Tore his biceps in February during a South American tour ... Despite his bad arm, went ahead with a rematch against Edge at No Way Out and lost ... After missing four months of action, Mysterio was drafted to Raw in June.

60 ERIC YOUNG (6', 218, 8, 120) It's a bird! It's a plane! It's one of TNA's most loveably quirky competitors ... Won a 15-man

battle royal at Bound For Glory 2007 to advance in a "Fight For The Right" tournament ... Feuded with James Storm over TNA's "Beer Drinking" championship for several months ... Was chosen by Samoa Joe to partner with him and Kevin Nash and replace an absent Scott Hall in a six-man tag team main event against the Angle Alliance at Turning Point ... A rivalry with Rellik forced Young to face his fear of monsters ... He did so by creating an alter ego, the courageous "Super Eric" ... Won the tag team championship with Kaz in April, but was quickly stripped of the title.

61 RHINO (5'10", 250, 14, 39) Former NWA and ECW champion is back in the main-event mix in TNA after suffering some personal setbacks in the past year ... Feuded last summer with James Storm, who made light of Rhino's struggles with alcohol ... Was put on the sidelines with an injury ... Also reportedly took the time to address some personal issues ... Returned in February to seek revenge against Storm, and defeated him in an "Elevation X" match at Destination X ... Mended his broken friendship with Christian Cage to join forces in beating a team led by Tomko in a "lethal lockdown" cage match in April ... Competed in a "King Of The Mountain" match for the TNA World championship at Slammiversary that was won by Samoa Joe.

62 SHELTON BENJAMIN (6'2", 245, 8, 91) Former two-time All-American amateur wrestler shined as the "Gold Standard" in ECW ... Picked up several wins upon his arrival to WWE's third brand, including against Tommy Dreamer, Jimmy Wang Yang, and Nunzio ... Won a five-man over-the-top-rope Royal Rumble preview in January ... Had a series of matches against Kane in February ... Competed in his third "Money In The Bank" ladder match at WrestleMania 24 ... Teamed with Elijah Burke in a losing effort against C.M. Punk and Ric Flair in February ... Has most recently been embroiled in a feud with newcomer Kofi Kingston, ending the Jamaican's impressive winning streak ... Drafted to Smackdown in June.

55 TO 62

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➔ **63 CARLITO** (6', 220, 8, 41) Second-generation Caribbean superstar continues to struggle to gain traction in WWE ... Feuded with Triple-H upon "The Game's" return last summer, leading to Carlito losing a no-disqualification match at Unforgiven where the no-DQ stipulation applied only to Carlito ... Lost to then-Intercontinental champion Jeff Hardy in a ladder match at WWE's annual holiday "Tribute To The Troops" event ... Competed in WrestleMania 24's "Money In The Bank" ladder match ... Formed a tag team with Santino Marella and saw some success in matches against Paul London and Brian Kendrick and Cody Rhodes and Hardcore Holly ... Has reportedly been disenchanted at various times with his WWE career over the past year.

64 SCOTT STEINER (6'1", 276, 22, 59) Neither "Big Poppa Pump's" biceps nor his dom-

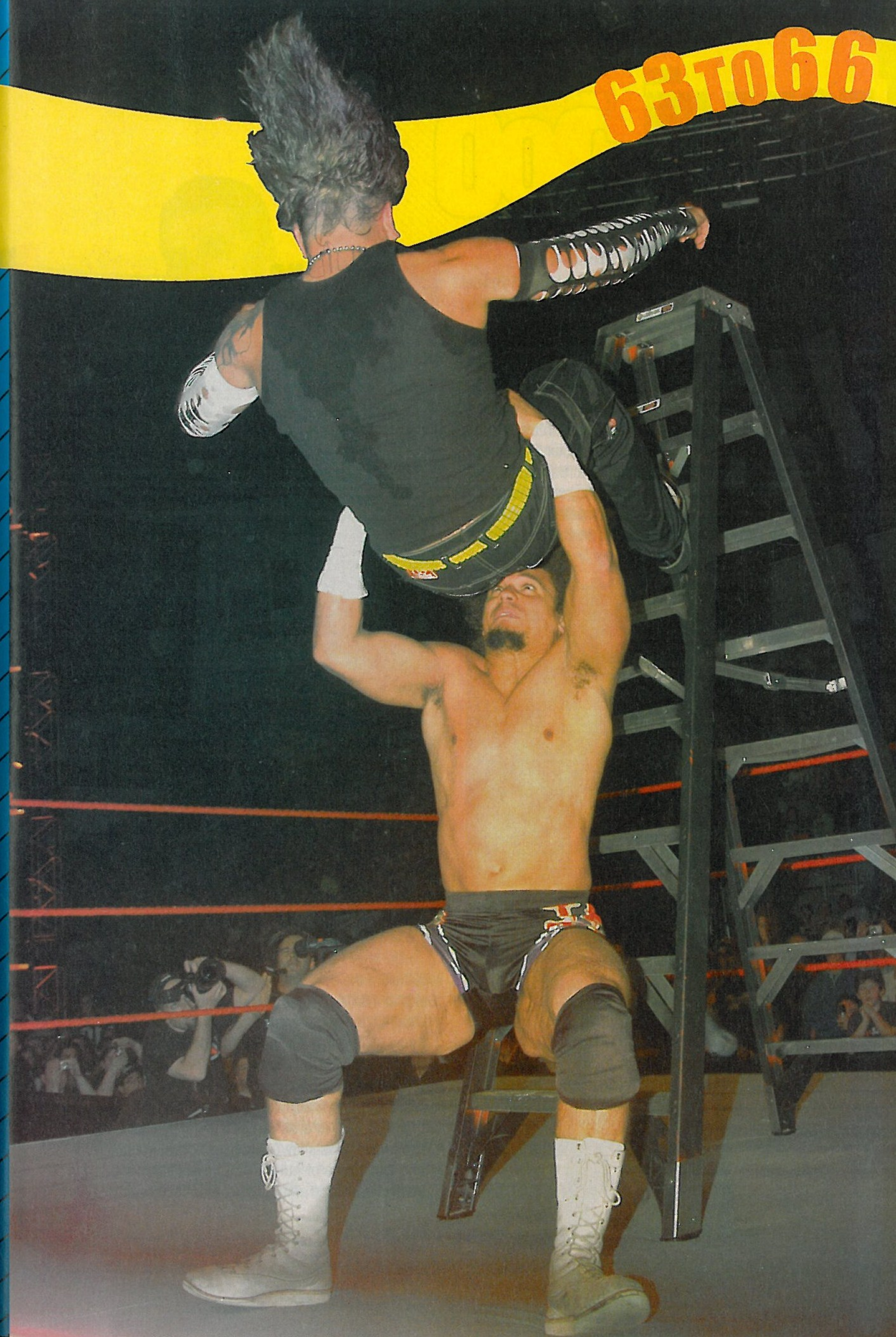


inance in TNA would indicate that the Michigan native is approaching his late-40s ... Re-formed his legendary tag team with brother Rick last year and unsuccessfully challenged for the TNA tag team championship against A.J. Styles and Tomko at Genesis ... After a complex series of events stemming from Turning Point's "Feast Or Fired" match, ended up with a guaranteed World title shot ... Took Petey Williams under his wing and transformed him into a miniature version of himself through a bizarre initiation process, complete with hazing ... Former WCW champion cashed in his title shot and lost in a three-way match against champions Samoa Joe and Kaz at Sacrifice ... Tore an ACL in the match and was expected to be sidelined for up to six months after surgery.

➔ **65 MARK HENRY** (6'3", 372, 12, 184) WWE veteran has become a powerful force in his home brand of ECW, where the "World's Strongest Man" wears the heavyweight title ... Before jumping to ECW, taunted The Undertaker leading up to Unforgiven, where Henry lost to the "Dead Man" in the main event ... Won a four-man "Monster Mash" battle royal that included Kane, Big Daddy V, and the Great Khali on the Halloween edition of ECW ... Was the last man eliminated in a 20-man battle royal at WrestleMania to decide the challenger to the ECW championship later that night ... Briefly feuded with The Big Show ... Was involved in backstage controversy when he complained to WWE brass about Smackdown writer Michael Hayes using a racial slur during a conversation with him.

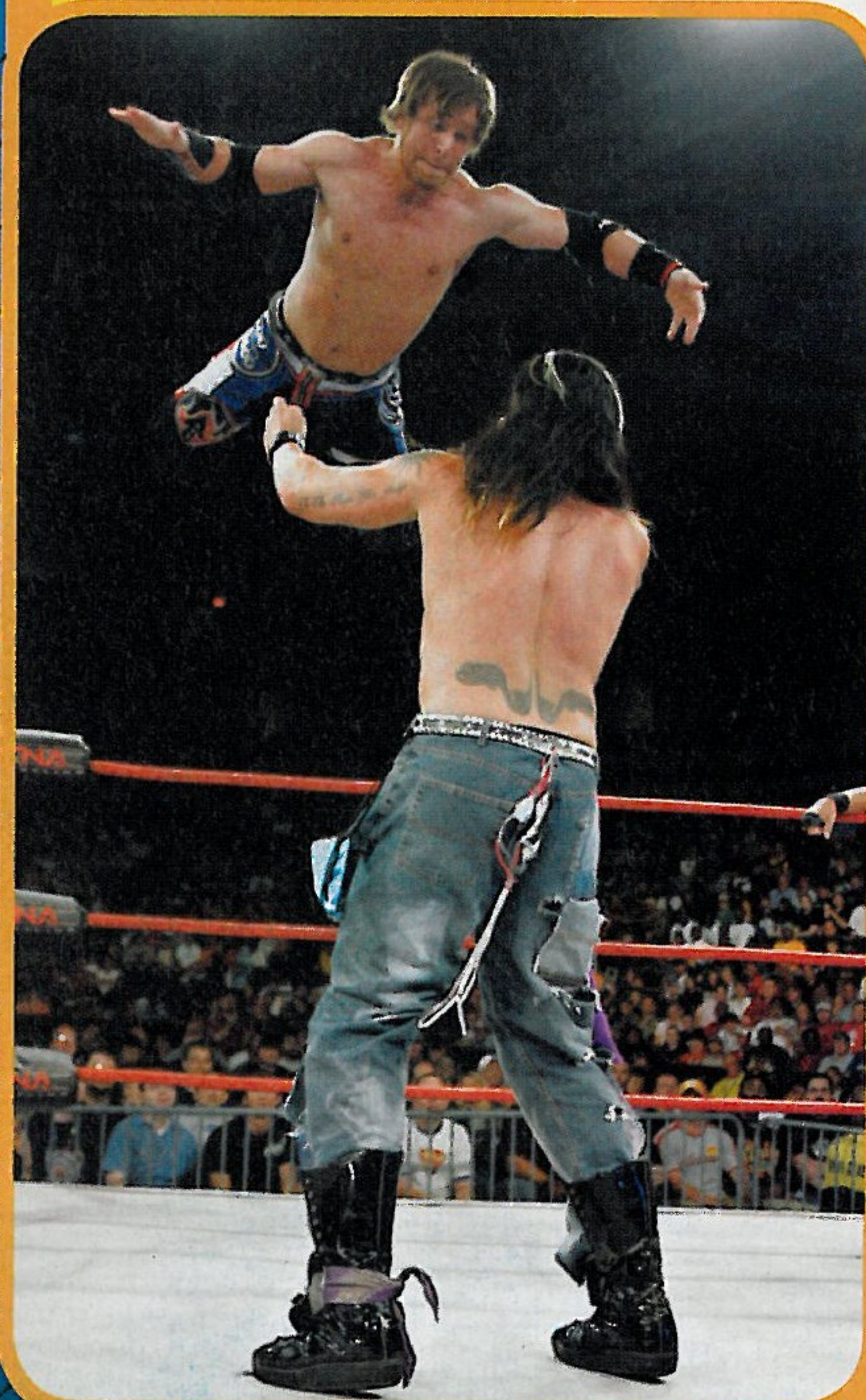
66 CHUCK PALUMBO (6'7", 285, 10, NL) Former WWE and WCW tag team champion rode back into WWE on one of his custom-made motorcycles in 2007 ... Picked up early victories against the likes of Kenny Dykstra and Chris Masters ... Started making time with Diva Michelle McCool soon after his return ... Became engaged in a lengthy feud with Jamie Noble, who made advances toward McCool ... Despite his smaller size, Noble had Palumbo's number, beating him on several occasions ... A frustrated Palumbo began showing a dark side that turned off McCool ... Has devastating power, as evidenced by his finisher, the full-throttle swinging side slam... Testosterone-fueled Rhode Island-native once nearly married Kip James in an ill-conceived WWE storyline in 2002.

63 TO 66



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67 HOMICIDE (5'10", 220, 15, 54) Former ROH heavyweight champion is one-half of TNA tag team titleholders the Latin American Exchange with partner Hernandez ... After a red-hot 2006, LAX cooled down in 2007 after losing mouthpiece Konnan ... Recruited a new spokesman, Hector Guerrero, as well as a female soldier, Salinas ... Recaptured the TNA World tag team championship by outlasting several paired TNA stars in the "Deuces Wild" tournament ... LAX defeated The Motor City Machine Guns and The Rock 'n' Rave Infection at Destination X ... Streetwise Brooklyn native maintains a loyal fan following in the Northeast, where he frequently competes in promotions including JAPW ... His gringo killer finisher is one of the most painful moves in all of wrestling.



68 AVERNO (5'9", 170, 13, NL) One-half of CMLL's most feared tag team, Los Sicarios del Inferno, had a tremendous year ... Formed a powerful trio called La Triada del Terror with Mephisto and Ephesto ... Captured the NWA middleweight title from Mistico, his second, in November ... Has successfully defended both CMLL and NWA belts against the likes of Negro Casas, Sagrado, and Heavy Metal ... Los Sicarios defeated Atlantis and Ultimo Guerrero to capture the CMLL tag team title ... Averno and Mephisto shocked the lucha libre world when they abandoned Ephesto to join Los Perros del Mal ... After joining the Perros' stable, they lost the CMLL tag team belts to Hector Garza and Mistico in February ... Signature move is the double underhook facebuster.

69 CHRIS SABIN (6', 220, 8, 28) Pioneer of TNA's X division has sought tag team success over the past year with his partner, Alex Shelley, as The Motor City Machine Guns ... Defeated Abyss and Brother Devon in a three-way match to advance in TNA's "Turkey Bowl" \$25,000 tournament on Thanksgiving night ... Lost in the finals of the tournament against A.J. Styles and Samoa Joe ... Competed in the first-ever "TerrorDome" X division match at Sacrifice that was won by Kaz ... Competes in various independent promotions, including JAPW and All American Wrestling ... Teamed with Shelley in a losing effort against The Age of the Fall in April ... Four-time X division champ uses a cross-legged Samoan driver called the cradle shock to finish foes.

70 ALEX SHELLEY (5'10", 199, 6, 75) Former "Baby Bear" has settled into his role as one-half of the dynamic tag team The Motor City Machine Guns in TNA and various independent promotions ... Fought for the honor and survival of TNA's X division in a lengthy war with Team 3D, who sought to dismantle the entire division ... Shelley and his partner Chris Sabin more than held their own in the feud against the much bigger team, and finally won the war by defeating Brothers Ray and Devon in a streetfight at Against All Odds ... Detroit native has shown glimpses of an untapped charisma and sense of humor that have helped make the Guns a cult favorite among TNA fans.

6/10/14



72 HERNANDEZ (6'2", 295, 12, 106) Gargantuan Texan provides the muscle for TNA World tag team champions the Latin American Exchange ... Along with partner Homicide, defeated Senshi and Elix Skipper in an "Ultimate X" match at October's Bound For Glory ... LAX beat Team 3D at Sacrifice in the finals of the "Deuces Wild" tournament to decide who would hold the vacant TNA tag team championship ... LAX successfully retained the championship against Team 3D at Slammiversary ... Occasionally competes in JAPW, where he lost in a challenge to heavyweight champion Low-Ki in January ... Uses a running crucifix bomb reminiscent of the Razor's edge to beat opponents ... Powerhouse Latino developed surprising agility on the gridiron during his previous career in arena football.

73 DOS CARAS JR. (6'5", 211, 8, 115) The son of the legendary Dos Caras and nephew of Mil Mascaras and Sicodelico is CMLL's most complete competitor ... His size, strength, and MMA background have made the "Hercules Potosino" a powerful and impressive luchador ... Considered the top tecnico heavyweight of the CMLL roster ... Since winning the CMLL heavyweight title from Universo 2000 last summer, has successfully defended his belt against competitors such as Lizmark Jr., Universo 2000, and Ultimo Guerrero ... Frequently teams with Marco Corleone to form CMLL's Twin Towers, a reference to their size and power ... Formed a trio with Mistico and Blue Panther to challenge for the CMLL's trios title ... Uses a devastating German suplex as his finishing maneuver.

71 ZORRO (5'9", 200, 15, 85) The hard work has finally paid off for the "Prophet Of Lucha Libre" ... Zorro has become one of AAA's top rudos, and one of the most complete stars of the lucha scene ... After abandoning the Hell Brothers, Zorro joined Konnan's Foreign Legion stable, where he became the co-leader of the team ... Since joining the Legion, Zorro's number of victories has increased drastically ... Whether it is singles, tag team, or trios matches, Zorro usually finds a way to win, often with the Legion's help ... Biggest victory came in April when he won the Rey de Reyes tournament ... Feuded with Cibernetico over the AAA heavyweight title ... Likes to use a kendo stick on his opponents and puts them away with the Zorro stretch.

74 JIMMY JACOBS (5'7", 171, 9, 252) Angst-ridden Grand Rapids, Michigan, native has reached new heights in Ring of Honor since his formation last year of a stable of social outcasts known as The Age of the Fall ... After weeks of cryptic messages appearing on Internet forums, the AOTF made its debut at ROH's third pay-per-view "Man Up" when Jacobs and his cohorts sadistically attacked The Briscoe Brothers ... Jacobs and partner Tyler Black won the ROH tag team championship from the Briscoes in December and held on to them for a month ... Currently feuding with Austin Aries, who stole his girlfriend, Lacey, after Jacobs tried to recruit him into the group ... Recaptured the tag belts in June in the finals of a tournament.

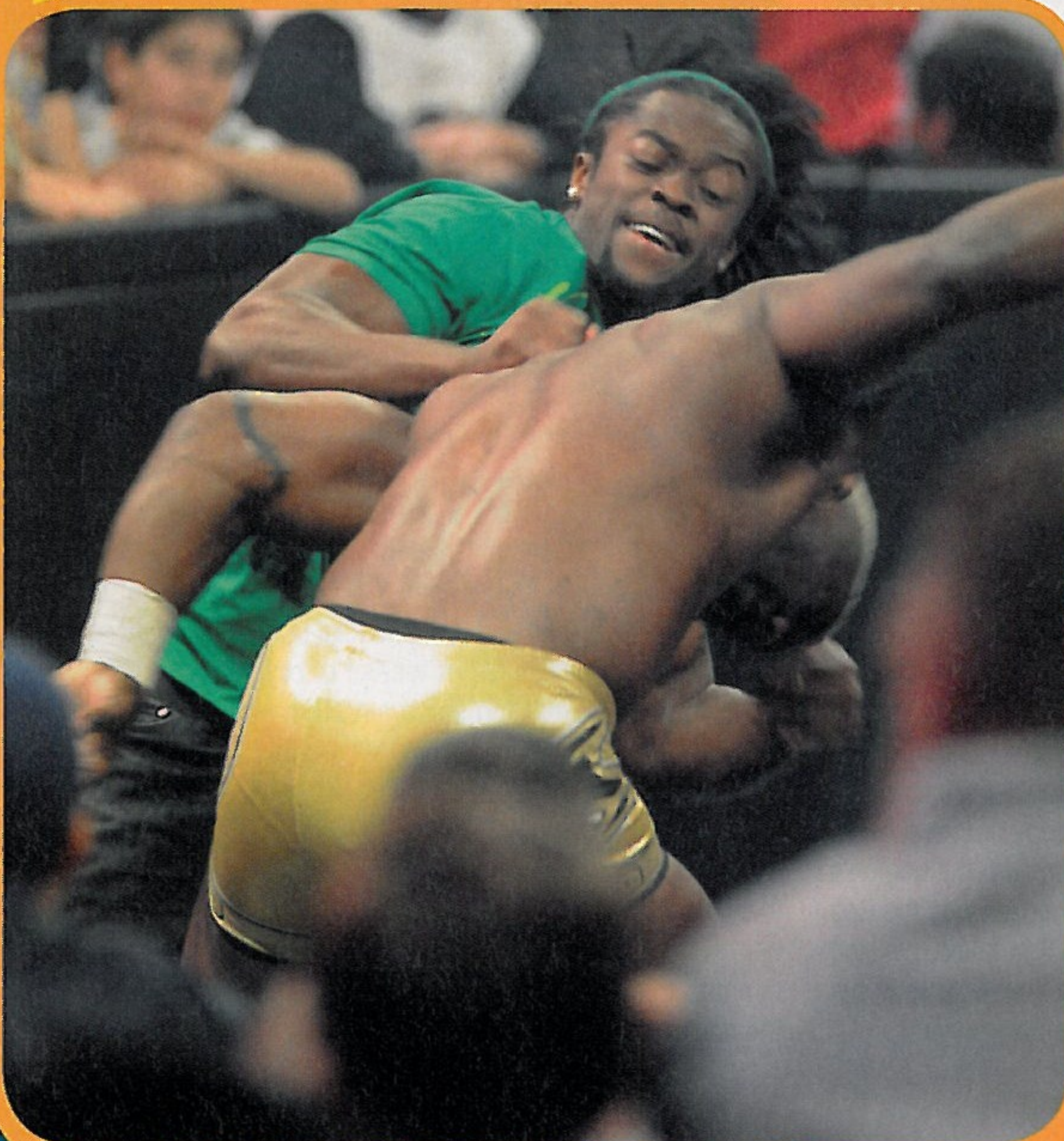
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75 ORLANDO COLON (6', 200, 3, NL)

Charismatic member of the celebrated Colon Puerto Rican wrestling dynasty is one of World Wrestling Council's fastest-rising stars ... The former "Fire Blaze" was unmasked when he lost a mask-vs.-career match against Bronco in July 2007 ... Lost against then-WWC Universal heavyweight champion Scott Hall in November ... Teamed with his cousin Eddie Colon to defeat Konnan and Ron Killings at WWC's "Euphoria" event—giving his cousin Stacy five minutes to beat up on a handcuffed Konnan ... Defeated El Condor in June ... Lanky competitor is also cousins with WWE's Carlito ... Sometimes utilizes a swinging half-nelson he calls Orlando's magic.

76 KOFI KINGSTON (6'1", 225, 3, NL)

Popular, high-flying Jamaican made his WWE TV debut this year ... WWE made a big deal



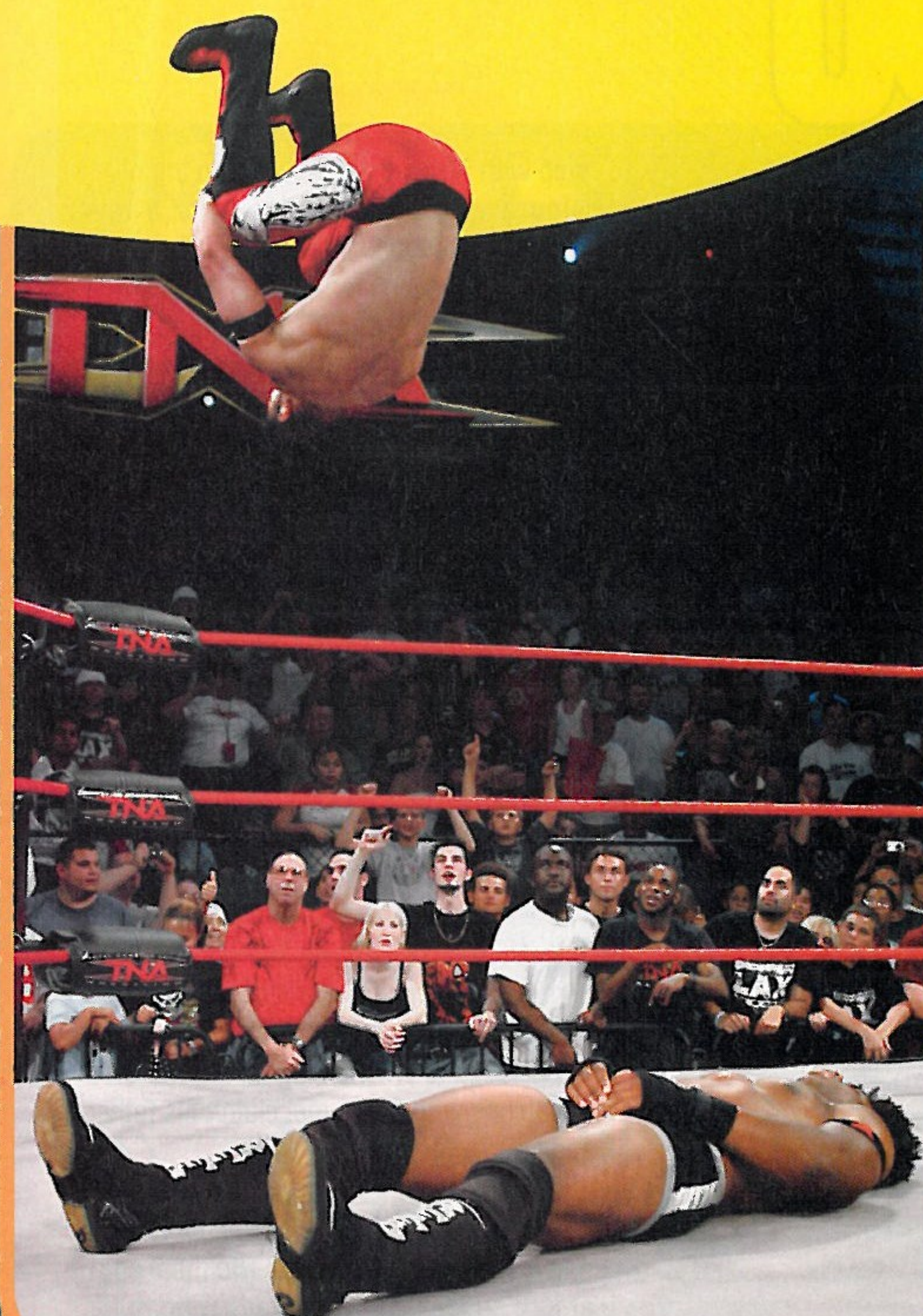
about his arrival in ECW by producing a series of vignettes ... Scored some impressive wins during his first few months ... Rattled off a 21-match winning streak that was snapped by Shelton Benjamin ... The loss slowed his momentum until he was drafted to Raw in June ... Defeated Chris Jericho for the Intercontinental championship at Night Of Champions, in his first match for the Raw brand.

77 ALAN STONE (5'9", 194, 11, NL)

Dancing narcissist has had the most successful year of his career ... Abandoned the Guapos VIP stable ... With brothers Super Calo and Chris Stone, formed the Bellos Stone stable ... Stable feuded with the Guapos in a series of violent matches ... Feud ended in Mexico's first ever six-sided steel cage, where Alan shaved the head of Scorpio Jr. ... Created a short-lived tag team with former nemesis Intocable ... Reached the finals of the Rey de Reyes tournament, but lost to Zorro ... Has lately teamed with different competitors, and fought in some high-profile matches ... Typically uses a slingshot crossbody on his opponents.

78 BROTHER RAY (6'4", 280, 17, 74)

Remains the powerhouse and unofficial captain of Team 3D and probably always will be ... Although based on number of major tag title wins alone, he and Brother Devon can make a case for being one of the top duos of all-time, the last 12 months haven't been particularly good for these brothers with different mothers ... Dropped two matches to the reunited Steiner brothers in TNA late in 2007, including a tables bout ... Isn't it odd how many tables matches these supposed table match aficionados lose? ... Also struggled in feuds with LAX and The Motor City Machine Guns (Alex Shelley and Chris Sabin), but don't tell them their best days are behind them.



79 CODY RHODES (6'1", 200, 2, 172)

First year in WWE wasn't exactly of the breakout variety for Dusty's boy ... Several WWE stars made him a target for no other reason than his bloodlines ... Gave Randy Orton a good match on Raw in trying to avenge the concussion the "Legend Killer" inflicted on Dusty, but he came up short ... Lost several stiff battles to WWE's resident bully, Hardcore Holly ... Ended up teaming with Holly and capturing the Raw tag title ... They haven't exactly been dominant, losing non-title bouts to, among other duos, Umaga and Snitsky ... Doesn't seem to have much of his dad's legendary charisma, but then again, he doesn't get much microphone time ... Could stand to add a flashy finisher to his arsenal.

82 BROTHER DEVON (6'1", 260, 17, 80)

Still getting the tables when asked by Team 3D partner Brother Ray in TNA ... They were unable to add the TNA World tag title to their resume this year ... Maybe they were distracted by the inane scenario in which they had to make weight in TNA or be fired ... Fortunately, they're still around ... Advanced to the finals of the "Deuces Wild" tag team tournament at the Sacrifice PPV in May, beating the teams of Sting and James Storm and Christian Cage and Rhino before losing to LAX ... Dropped two streetfights on PPVs in early-2008, including one of the "Fish Market" variety to Curry Man and Shark Boy at Destination X in March (don't ask).

80 LANCE CADE (6'5", 253, 9, 137)

Huge jump for a guy with the size, physique, look, and raw skills to be a major player for WWE ... Got his start at the Shawn Michaels Wrestling Academy, and it's nice to see WWE is finally exploiting that little nugget ... Starting to seem like his long-time tag team partner, Trevor Murdoch, really was holding him back ... Despite a nice little feud with The Hardys and their Raw World tag title reign, Cade and Murdoch got lost in the mix very easily ... Got annoyed, and blindsided his partner when Murdoch became more interested in singing than winning ... Got the best of a very brief feud ... Now aligning himself with Chris Jericho against HBK and Triple-H.

81 SONJAY DUTT (5'8", 185, 7, 134)

"Original Playa From The Himalayas" is a mainstay of TNA's X division ... Partnership with Kevin Nash (more like mentor/student relationship), in which Nash tried to find the right persona for him, actually boosted his status in TNA considerably ... Who says Nash doesn't care about young talent? ... Can anyone figure out the relationship between Dutt and Jay Lethal? ... They were friends for a while and have had some excellent matches, but Dutt turned heel when he tried to ruin Lethal's wedding to So Cal Val at Slammiversary ... Has a hilarious "Guru" persona ... Needs to learn to watch his temper.

75 TO 82

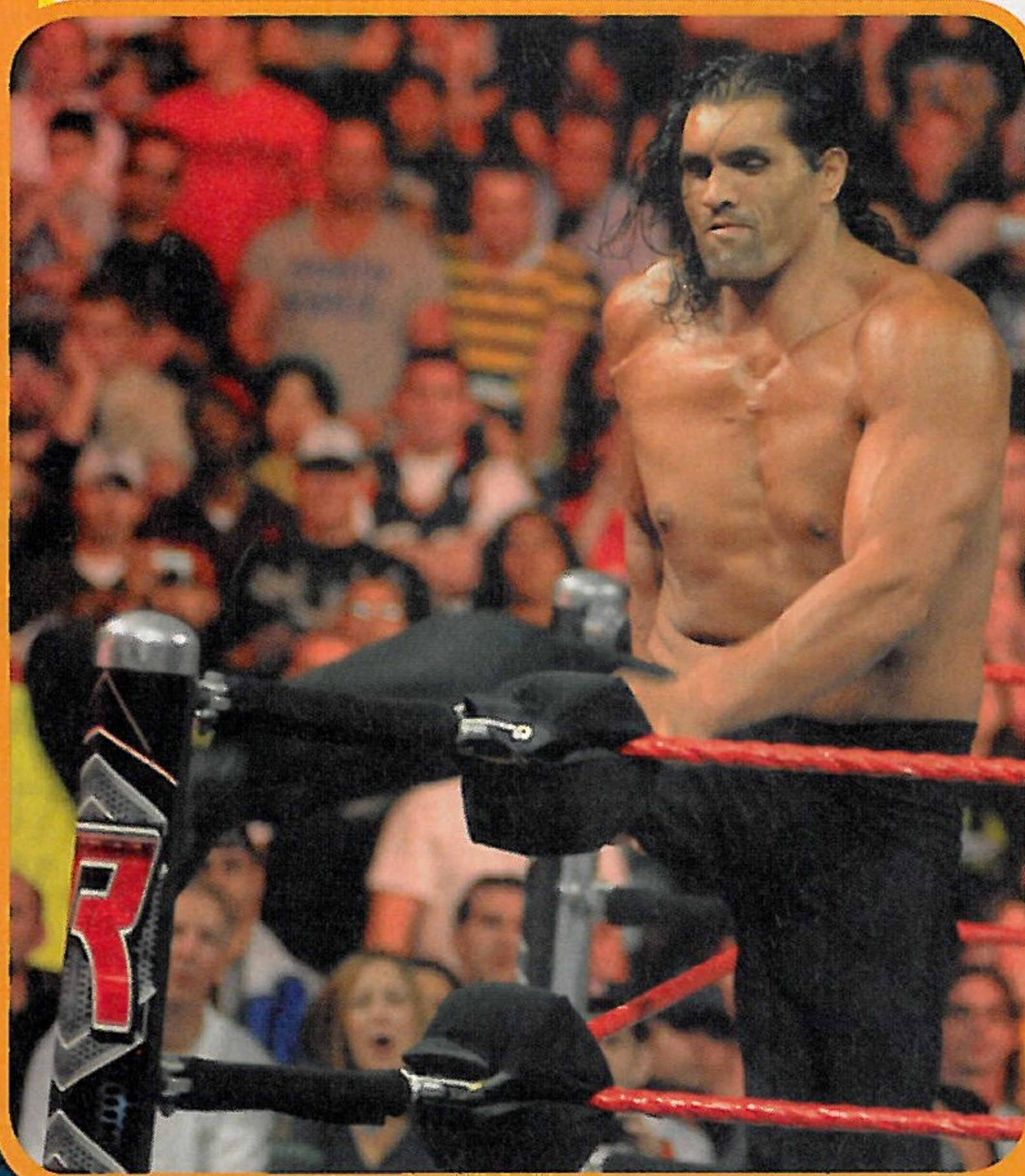
83 THE GREAT KHALI (7'3", 420, 8, 101) WWE's resident giant monster is having a hard time finding his niche these days ... Amazing size but very limited skills ... Still hard to believe he won the Smackdown World title last year ... In a matter of months, went from defending the Smackdown gold to battling Hornswoggle on pay-per-view ... Yeah, that's pretty telling ... So is the fact that in 2008, his favorite maneuver is a clawhold ... Probably destined for more awkward, big-man, WWE comedy storylines than important matches in the next year ... Is more big than great ... Had a part in the movie *Get Smart*, which also starred Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.

84 STING (6'3", 252, 23, 19) Talking retirement again after taking a break earlier in the year ... We think he has a few Stinger splashes and scorpion deathlocks left in him ... Had a very strange relation-

ship with Abyss that evolved into them being a very good tag team for a few months in the second half of 2007 ... Captured the TNA World title from Kurt Angle at Bound for Glory in October 2007 but lost it two nights later ... Helped Team Cage beat Team Tomko in a "Lethal Lockdown" match at Lockdown in April ... Didn't fare so well in the "Deuces Wild" tag tournament a month later ... Maybe that's because he got so fed up with partner James Storm that he fed him to Team 3D for the loss.

85 EL HIJO DEL SANTO (5'6", 170, 26, 31) The heir of the "Silver Legend" continues the Santo legacy ... Usually works as an independent wrestler ... Often fights legends such as Mil Mascaras as well as fellow second-generation stars like Blue Demon Jr. and Dr. Wagner Jr. ... Competed in a difficult 16-man roulette match in December, where the last man to remain lost his mask ... Was able to save his mask and unmasked Pentagon Black, adding yet another mask to his large collection ... Santo continues to wrestle everywhere and the crowds respect him not only for the legendary mask he wears, but also for his dedication to entertaining them ... Closes his matches with the camel clutch his father helped make famous.

86 KENTA KOBASHI (6'1", 260, 20, NL) The most popular and successful superstar in Japan for much of the decade, Pro Wrestling NOAH's Kobashi was stricken with cancer and sidelined long-term in a 546-day battle with the illness ... Conquered the disease and returned to a jam-packed Tokyo Nippon Budokan last December, his emotional comeback reducing both fans and wrestlers to tears ... Is very slowly working his way back into the ring with a part-time schedule, avoiding singles matches and basing himself in tags ... Continues to show the same strength and spirit as always, using blistering chops and lariats on opponents ... Seems to be only a matter of time until he challenges for singles gold again and returns to the top.



87 MITSU HARU MISAWA (6'1", 242, 28, 16) Founder and president of Pro Wrestling NOAH still tops many cards and remains a featured performer for his promotion ... Third reign as GHC champion spanned from December 2006 to January 2008 when he was finally dethroned by the up-and-coming Takeshi Morishima at Tokyo Nippon Budokan ... Years of hard hits and intense matches have slowed Misawa down significantly, but his mental and physical strength make him still one of the toughest Japanese stars to defeat ... Continues to team with protégé Yoshinari Ogawa more than a decade after they formed their tag team ... Misawa has come to rely more on his former rare finisher, the emerald frosion, to finish opponents, even doing it off the top turnbuckle on occasion.

88 TYLER BLACK (6'1", 210, 3, NL) Iowa native is one-half of the Ring of Honor tag team champions with fellow Age of the Fall faction member Jimmy Jacobs ... Necro Butcher and Lacey are

the other members of this strange band of social nonconformists ... A brooding type who shows terrific agility and plenty of daring maneuvers ... Cradle DDT he calls God's last gift is his finisher ... Also features a vicious Pele kick and running shooting-star press ... Has seen extensive action in IWA: Mid South and Pro Wrestling Guerrilla and was part of MTV's short-lived Wrestling Society X ... Surprisingly held his own against Nigel McGuinness, earning the respect of the ROH champ and the fans.

89 MASATO TANAKA (5'11", 209, 15, NL) The former ECW champion struggled to find the same success back home with ZERO1-MAX until now ... In the past year, won both of Z1's major tournaments as well as its leading title, the ZERO1 heavyweight championship ... After dominating Z1, led the promotion's feud with the much bigger New Japan Pro-Wrestling ... Earned victories over "big

league" superstars Manabu Nakanishi and Koji Kanemoto, gaining the attention and respect many felt he deserved before ... Embroiled in a feud with NJPW superstar Yuji Nagata, a big singles match likely down the road following many heated tag wars ... Master of the roaring (rolling) elbow and his new modified version, the sliding D.

90 NAOMICHI MARUFUJI (5'9", 200, 10, 27) The charismatic young flyer of Pro Wrestling NOAH's young generation, Marufuji is one of few junior heavyweights to achieve genuine success among heavyweights in Japan ... Has yet to emulate his remarkable GHC heavyweight championship reign of 2006, but recently held the GHC tag team championship with fellow lightweight Takashi Sugiura, the two having dethroned D-Lo Brown and Buchanan last October ... Has represented NOAH all over the world, his spectacular ring style always a safe bet to impress fans of all nationalities ... Can finish matches in many tricky ways, but his most famous finisher is the shiranui, a move he invented that has been used by the likes of Brian Kendrick and Alex Shelley in the United States.

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91 SANTINO MARELLA (5'10", 227, 4, 179) One of the most hated men in WWE had an up-and-down year ... Continued to get better and funnier on the microphone, but has yet to match the success he had in his first televised WWE match, when, during a European tour, he captured the Intercontinental title from Umaga—on Raw no less ... Teams regularly with Carlito but somehow they've failed to win the Raw tag title ... Lost his girlfriend, Maria Kanellis, after he disapproved of her appearing nude in *Playboy* ... Was humiliated by Snoop Dogg (whom he called "Snoopy The Dogg") at WrestleMania 24 ... Also lost to ABC talk show personality "Cousin" Sal Iacono (from *Jimmy Kimmel Live*) on Smackdown ... If only his ring skills could match his promo skills.

➔ **92 Hardcore Holly** (6'1", 235, 18, 157) Long-time WWE bully made Cody Rhodes his main target during the past year ... Remained cranky even after beating Dusty's son several times on Raw ... Apparently toughened Rhodes up enough to make the youngster his tag team partner ... Team beat Lance Cade and Trevor Murdoch for the Raw World tag belts in October, which they still held at press time despite several non-title losses ... Looked like he might have a

nice career resurgence when he briefly joined the ECW brand and had arguably the best bout of his career against Rob Van Dam last year ... Now looks like he's a tag team specialist after close to 15 years of mostly undistinguished mid-card service in WWE.

93 SATOSHI KOJIMA (6', 247, 17, 64) One of Japan's most animated stars, All Japan's Kojima is still hunting for his first Triple Crown reign since 2006 ... Shocked fans last summer by becoming a villain for the first time since his NWO Japan days in the 1990s, becoming the leader of the Voodoo Murders ... Has shown a new sadistic streak since joining VM, displaying little respect for the rules and using weapons to batter opponents ... Along with cohort TARU, held the AJPW tag team championship for more than four months, until they lost the belts in January 2008 ... Had his elbow torn apart by Hiroshi Tanahashi in the 2008 "Champion Carnival" this April and has been sidelined ever since.

⬇ **94 RON KILLINGS** (6'1", 230, 11, 126) The mainstream rub he hoped to get from being the man to team with NFL bad boy Adam "Pacman" Jones didn't pan out ... Killings did all the work in the ring to win the TNA World tag title with "Pacman" ...

Most wrestling fans hated the move, and the mainstream media was in agreement ... They defeated Kurt Angle and Sting at No Surrender in September and lost the belts to A.J. Styles and Travis Tomko a month later ... Former NWA champion from back in TNA's infancy has since rejoined WWE, where he first rose to modest fame as the rapping K-Kwik ... As of press time, had only wrestled in dark matches for WWE.



91 TO 94

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95 CURRY MAN (6', 225, 15, 30)
Made his spicy good debut in TNA shortly after Christopher Daniels was forced out of TNA ... In one of all too many wacky TNA storylines, Daniels beat Senshi for his "Feast Or Fired" briefcase on *Impact*



last winter, but the briefcase contained a pink slip ... Soon, thereafter, Curry Man showed up ... Rumor has it he and Daniels are one and the same ... Actually, *PWI* has been reporting as much ever since Curry Man began competing in Japan and became a cult favorite years ago ... Regularly teams with the equally wacky Shark Boy ... Spice rack is his scrumptious finisher ... Curry Man and ROH standout Bryan Danielson won the IWGP junior tag title way back in 2004.

96 TREVOR MURDOCH (6'4", 240, 11, 135) Impressive jump for this Harley Race trainee (notice the similar body type) considering Murdoch spent the last year almost exclusively in tag team competition ... Held the Raw World tag title with Lance Cade, but lost it to Cody Rhodes and Hardcore Holly ... Looked like he might begin to break out when he started showing off his singing talents after matches ... Turned in a nice version of Kenny Rogers' classic "The Gambler" ... Cade didn't much enjoy the performances and walked away from their partnership ... But Ol' Trev took a beating from Murdoch beforehand ... As Cade's star rises, Murdoch seems to be at a crossroads.

97 KENTA (5'8", 180, 8, 45) One half of Pro Wrestling NOAH's GHC junior tag team champions, KENTA likes to challenge much bigger heavyweights and often puts them to the test ... Regained the GHC junior tag championship on enemy turf with Taiji Ishimori from Dragon Gate pair Shingo Takagi & BxB Hulk this March, and the two seem unstoppable as a team among NOAH's juniors ... Regular trips into the heavyweight division have been successful ... Challenged Mitsuharu Misawa for the GHC heavyweight championship in Ring of Honor last November, falling short after a good effort ... As one of NOAH's biggest hopes for the future, seems likely to continue his push for heavyweight success.

98 CHARLY MANSON (5'9", 180, 18, 60) This member of the Hell Brothers has gained tremendous popularity among AAA fans ... Helped Cibernetico shave Spiritu's head in a six-man "Dome Of Death" match in September ... Biggest victory came at the Antonio Pena Memorial show in October ... Became the first man to win the 12-man Antonio Pena Memorial Tournament, defeating Alan Stone, Scott Hall, and Konnan ... Defeated Kenzo Suzuki in a AAA heavyweight title tournament, but fell to Mesias, the eventual winner ... Found some success teaming with Chessman ... Frequently involved in matches against international superstars as well as lucha stars ... A leg injury suffered in May put Manson out of action for the rest of the year ... Makes opponents submit to his Manson special.

99 ELIJAH BURKE (6'1", 230, 4, 87) Not the year this former leader of The New Breed in ECW had to have hoped it would be ... Burke and The Breed's feud with The ECW Originals in 2007 was fun while it lasted, but there isn't much left to either faction these days, which has left very little for Burke to do other than wrestle the occasional filler match for ECW on Tuesday nights ... Has had an on-and-off alliance with another underused and underappreciated ECW competitor, Shelton Benjamin ... Worked in the Jacksonville Sheriff's office and was an amateur boxer before getting into wrestling ... Was the last man to wrestle Chris Benoit before that fateful June 2007 weekend.

100 TOSHIAKI KAWADA (6', 243, 26, 99) The legendary "Dangerous K" rotates between that persona and wrestling as Hustle K

nowadays ... Appears regularly as a top star for Japan's Hustle promotion, donning a Bruce Lee-style yellow jumpsuit and trying his hand at singing to fans ... When not entertaining fans with theatrics in Hustle, is still a deadly veteran, appearing as a freelancer for his old home, All Japan Pro Wrestling ... Recently announced as a participant in New Japan Pro-Wrestling's G1 Climax set for this August, Kawada looks set to silence critics who doubt the veteran still has it.



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101 NICK DINSMORE (6', 226, 11, 190) Eugene isn't such a feel-good story anymore ... Was quite popular for a few years in WWE as Eric Bischoff's mentally challenged nephew ... Persona soon got stale, however, and then what? ... Was released by WWE in September 2007 after having been suspended several times ... Rejoined OVW in early-2008—the same territory in which he excelled early in his career—as the very serious “Mr. Wrestling” Nick Dinsmore and won another OVW heavy-weight title by beating Jay Bradley ... Now back to doing his Eugene routine on the indy scene.

102 CHESSMAN (6'1", 231, 12, 171) Former La Secta member and now one-third of the Hell Brothers shares the same incredible level of popularity as partners Cibernetico and Charly Manson among AAA fans ... Chessman reached the finals of the AAA heavy-weight tournament in September ... Lost to Mesias in final round by DQ for using a foreign object ... Often helped Cibernetico in key matches ... Frequently teamed with Manson ... After feuding briefly with Halloween, injured his knee while helping Cibernetico capture the AAA heavyweight title ... Teamed primarily with Cibernetico since his regular partner, Manson, went out with a leg injury ... Often relies on foreign objects—including a red mist that he spits at opponents—to set up foes before finishing them off with a spear.

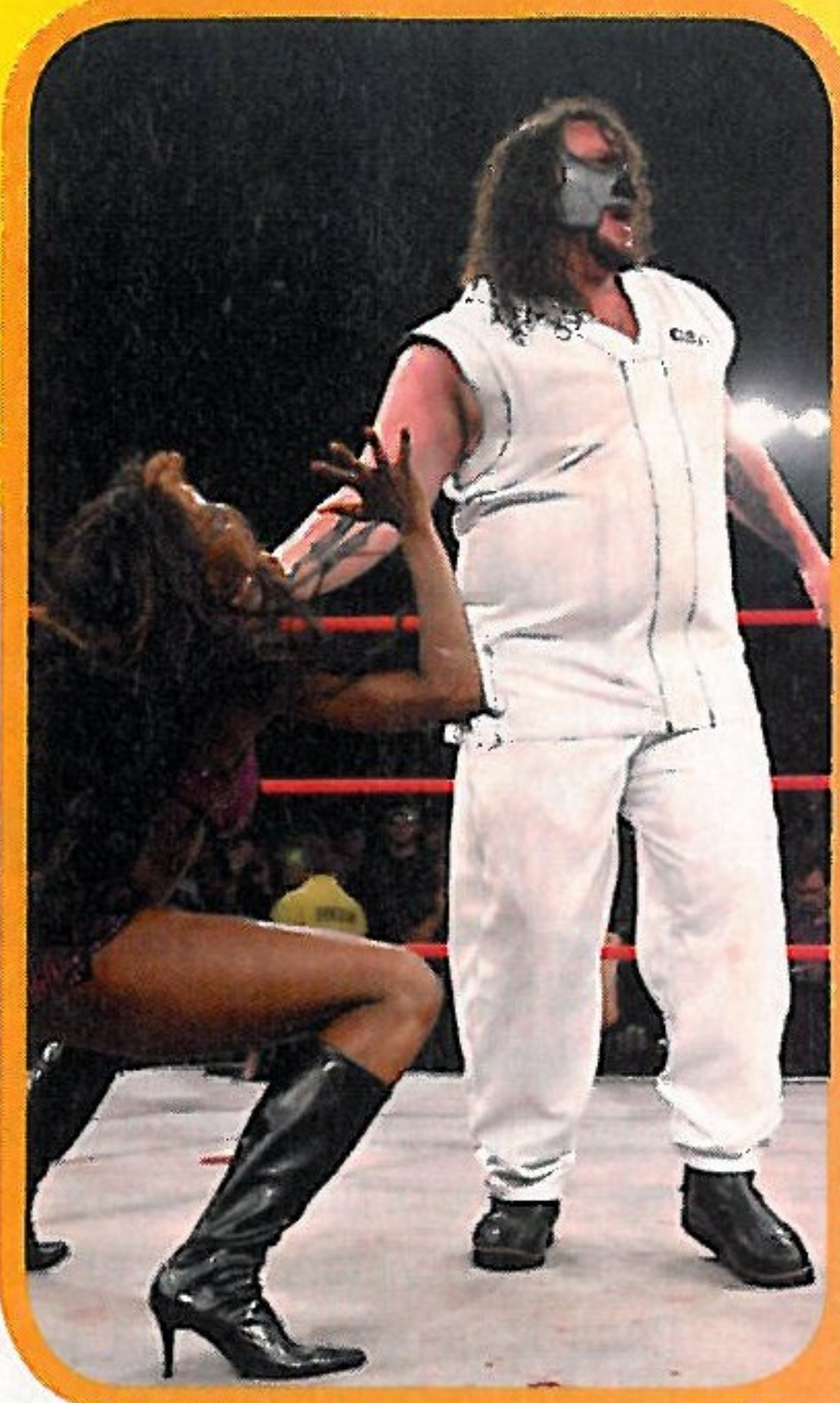
103 RODERICK STRONG (5'10", 205, 7, 55) “Messiah Of The Backbreaker” has been a Ring of Honor regular for the better part of five years now ... Had been part of a strong faction known as the No Remorse Corps, but Davey Richards turned his back on him to join Sweet and Sour Inc. ... This came right after Strong ostensibly ended his year-long feud with Erick Stevens by beating him in a ridiculously brutal “Fight Without Honor” at “Respect Is Earned II” in which chairs and ladders were used liberally ... Regular in TNA a few years ago, but he and Austin Aries were suspended and ultimately released after arriving several hours late for a show.

104 ABYSS (6'10", 350, 9, 23) Huge drop for this huge monster following a bizarre and inconsistent year ... Former NWA World cham-

pion revealed his real name was Chris Parks, and Father James Mitchell claimed to be his father ... Mitchell has clearly watched too many old Paul Bearer tapes ... Feuded mostly with Mitchell and Judas Mesias over the past year, scoring his most violent victory over Mesias in a “Barb-Wire Massacre” at Against All Odds ... Returned to TNA at Slammiversary with a new look, this after spending time in an insane asylum ... Gotta love Vince Russo.

105 MEPHISTO (5'9", 191, 19, 90) Son of lucha libre legend Astro Rey ... The other half of CMLL's most feared tag team, Los Sicarios del Terror ... Along with Averno, Mephisto defeated Atlantis and Ultimo Guerrero to capture the CMLL tag team title ... The Sicarios stable shocked lucha libre fans when they joined forces with the Perros del Mal, and kicked their longtime partner Ephesto off the team ... Their reign as champions came to an end when they lost the belts to Mistico and Hector Garza in March ... After a controversial rematch that left the belts vacant, both Mephisto and Averno failed to regain the title ... Uses the double underhook facebuster to defeat his opponents ... Also features a Boston crab and Gedo clutch (camel clutch variation).

106 FESTUS (6'7", 330, 3, 312) Brawling country bumpkin with “problems” has come a long way since wrestling as Impostor Kane for a few nights and even beating the “Big Red Machine” at Vengeance 2006 ... Has also competed as Festus Dalton ... A bit of a bumbling, unfocused goofball—until the opening bell rings, that is ... Teams with Jesse for Smackdown ... Team has failed to beat Smackdown World tag champs The Miz and John Morrison for the title ... Also wrestled fairly impressively against The Undertaker on Smackdown before succumbing to the gogoplata ... With such immense size, could have a decent future in the singles ranks.



107 DAVEY RICHARDS (5'6", 185, 4, 76) Washington State native won the ECWA's 2006 “Super 8” tournament, and his career has been on the rise ever since ... Formed the No Remorse Corps with Roderick Strong and Rocky Romero in early-2007 in Ring of Honor ... With Romero, beat Tyler Black and Jimmy Jacobs for the ROH tag team title in an “Ultimate Endurance” match in January 2008 ... Also won his second Pro Wrestling Guerrilla tag title with Super Dragon in October 2007 ... Turned against Strong in June 2008 and joined Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. in ROH.

108 ROCKY ROMERO (5'7", 175, 10, 37) Former member of The Havana Pitbulls (with Ricky Reyes) continues to do well in Ring of Honor ... Matched some of the tag team success he had there with Reyes in 2004 and 2005 with fellow No Remorse Corps heel faction member Davey Richards when they held the ROH tag belts for three months ... Has wrestled internationally as the masked Black Tiger IV ... Blends background in American and Japanese styles, lucha libre, mixed martial arts, and even boxing ... Shows off some pretty good Salsa moves in the ring, but don't look for him on *Dancing With The Stars* just yet.

109 ATLANTIS (5'8", 199, 25, 79) Grizzled veteran continues to deliver impressive matches ... Even as a strong and dangerous heel, fans still respect his accomplishments as a luchador ... His alliance with top heel Ultimo Guerrero has created one of the most dominant stables in lucha libre, Los Guerreros de La Atlantida ... Captured the CMLL tag championship with Ultimo Guerrero by defeating Negro Casas and

Mistico in November ... Lost the belts to Averno and Mephisto ... Atlantis and the Guerreros remained one of the top teams on the CMLL roster ... Has won numerous trios matches, usually teaming with Rey Bucanero and Ultimo Guerrero ... Revived his feud with Dr. Wagner Jr. in the spring during a series of trios matches ... Uses the La Atlantida torture rack to submit opponents.

110 EL CONDOR (6', 230, 18, NL) The masked Ray Gonzalez is one of the most accomplished stars in Puerto Rico ... Has had numerous title reigns as WWC Universal heavyweight champion and has also reigned atop the rival IWA promotion on several occasions as its heavyweight champion ... Briefly won the NWA heavyweight championship in Puerto Rico, although the title change was never officially acknowledged by the National Wrestling Alliance ... In the last year, ended his six-year affiliation with IWA and returned to WWC under the mask ... Unmasked and provoked a feud with Carlos Colon and son Carly (WWE's Carlito) ... Fenix landing is one of the most recognizable moves on the Puerto Rico scene.

111 BRIAN KENDRICK (5'8", 184, 9, 98) How can you reign as a world tag team champion for nearly a year and have it barely get noticed? Welcome to today's WWE ... Kendrick and Paul London nearly made it a year with the Smackdown belts in 2006–2007 ... Later moved to Raw as part of the 2007 supplemental draft and held the belts for all of three days during a South African tour in September ... Main feud during the last year was with Lance Cade and Trevor Murdoch ... Now Kendrick is on his own, having moved back to Smackdown in this year's supplemental draft, but don't expect a huge push.

112 NEGRO CASAS (5'7", 185, 28, 38) Oldest son of Pepe Casas is considered one of the top veteran workers on the CMLL roster ... The veteran “4:40” recaptured the CMLL tag team title with Mistico by defeating Dr. Wagner Jr. and Ultimo Guerrero ... Reign came to an end in November when they lost to Los Guerreros de la Atlantida's Ultimo Guerrero and Atlantis ... Challenged Averno for the NWA middleweight title, but was unsuccessful ... Usually teams with his brothers Felino and Heavy Metal for trios matches ... Applies the traditional family move la casita to end all of his matches.

101 TO 112

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113 HALLOWEEN (5'8", 209, 18, 169)

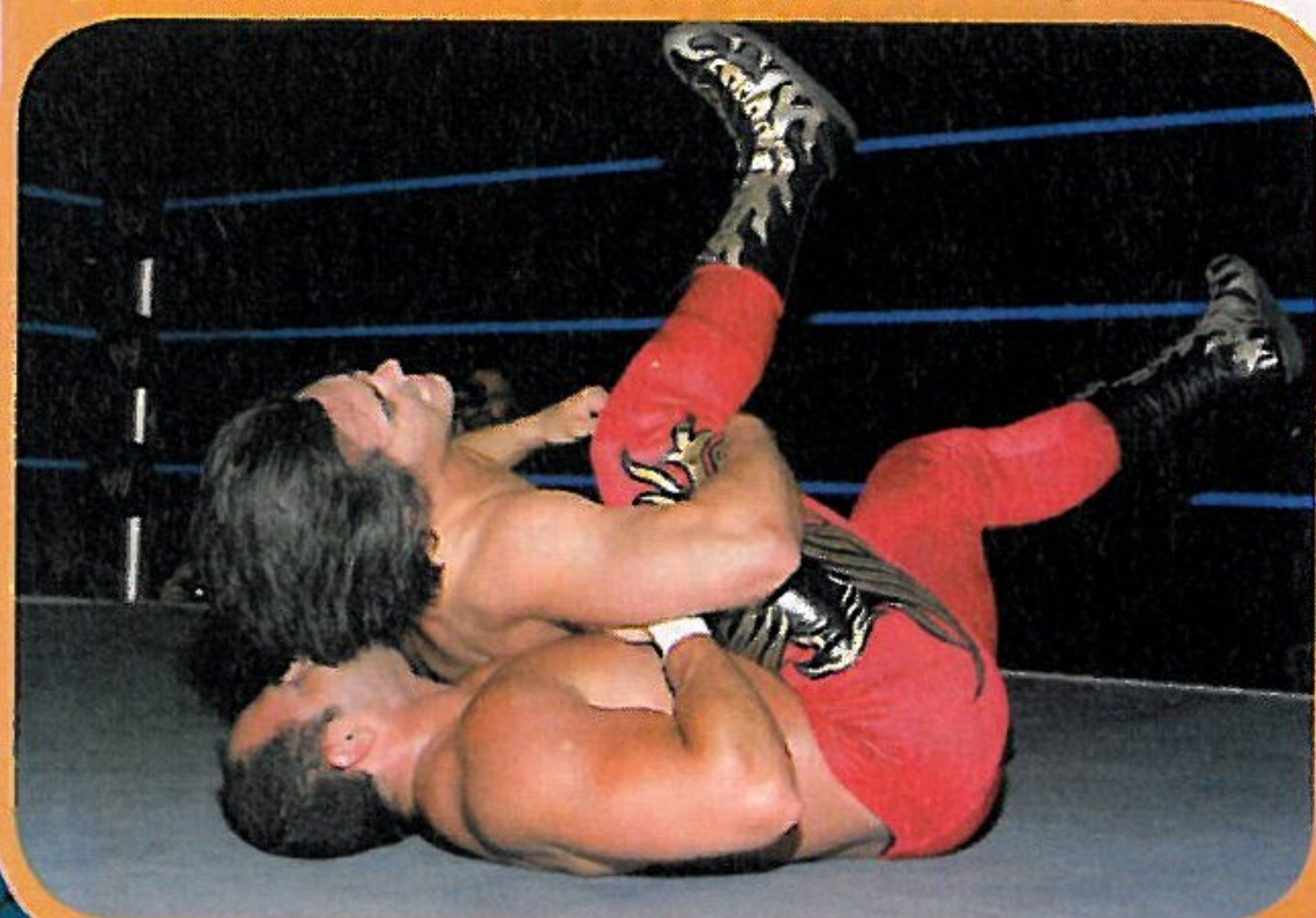
One of Mexico's pioneers of hardcore wrestling ... Abandoned CMLL to jump to rival AAA ... Recreated the Tijuana Family with Extreme Tiger and T.J. Extreme in AAA ... His partnership with Tiger has created one of AAA's strongest tag teams ... Mostly competed against Juventud Guerrera's Mexican Powers in gruesome hardcore bouts ... The Tijuana Family won a six-way ladder match, earning a \$25,000 prize ... Captured the AAA tag championship with Extreme Tiger after defeating Crazy Boy and Joe Lider ... Feud with the Mexican Powers continued until La Hermandad attacked his stable ... His signature maneuver is a powerful spear.

114 TOMMY DREAMER (6'3", 248, 19, 182)

Former ECW champion—but those 30 minutes on April 22, 2000, seem like they happened a lot more than only eight years ago ... The last strong link to the original ECW in WWE ... Still respected and hyped as one of the toughest and most dangerous guys in today's ECW whenever he wrestles, but he isn't a major threat anymore ... Has become a mentor to new ECW punching bag Colin Delaney, and they've had limited success as a team ... Still excels in "Extreme Rules" matches, but we don't see many of those anymore.

115 REY BUCANERO (5'11", 197, 17, 127)

Dubbed as the "Corsair Of Love" by fans and announcers ... Has successfully defended his CMLL light heavyweight title against the likes of Alex Koslov and Mr. Aguila ... Bucanero and Black Warrior lost their hair at the hands of Shocker and Lizmark Jr. in an incredible hair-vs.-hair tag team match ... After losing his hair, returned as



a heel and rejoined his former partner Ultimo Guerrero in the Guerreros de la Atlantida ... Since joining the heel stable, Bucanero has scored numerous trios victories, usually teaming with Olimpico and Atlantis ... Uses the Bucanero storm to end his matches.

116 PAUL LONDON (5'10", 205, 8, 97)

Pound-for-pound one of the most talented wrestlers in WWE ... Unfortunately, unless you're Rey Mysterio Jr., pound-for-pound usually doesn't mean squat in WWE ... Can mean "squash," though, as wrestlers his size get squashed all too often ... Foot injury kept him out of action in late-2007 and early-2008 ... Returned and continued teaming with Brian Kendrick ... They're former Raw and Smackdown tag champs ... Kendrick actually walked out on London during a handicap match against Umaga, but no dissension resulted ... High-flyer might benefit now that Kendrick has returned to Smackdown ... might.

117 JERRY LYNN (5'11", 225, 20, 139)

Ageless veteran (okay, he's actually 45) bid farewell to TNA after being booked in some strange and nonsensical storylines ... However, he had yet another career resurgence when he became the oldest man to win the ECWA's prestigious "Super 8" tournament in November 2007 ... Also recently returned to Ring of Honor to challenge champion Nigel McGuinness ... Fell to McGuinness' jawbreaker lariat in a great match ... Fans chanted "Please come back!" afterward ... Regular for such indies as All American Wrestling (where he's the heavyweight champ) and the International Wrestling Cartel.

118 WATARU INOUE (5'11", 216, 9, NL)

One of New Japan's big movers and shakers of late, Inoue has forced himself into the spotlight ... Won the IWGP junior heavyweight championship last December, before going on to win a series of matches against TNA's Christopher Daniels ... As junior champion, dominated NJPW's "Best Of The Super Juniors" tournament in June, defeating his friend Koji Kanemoto in the final ... A day after his tournament win, handed back the junior belt and announced himself a lightweight no more, entering NJPW's heavyweight division in time for August's G1 Climax ... Master of the elaborate triangle lancer submission hold.



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119 JUSHIN LIGER (5'7", 209, 19, 34)

The living legend of the lightweight class, Liger somehow continues to wrestle with great skill and finesse after nearly 20 years of wear and tear ... After disbanding the popular CTU group last August, became part of a stable of New Japan living legends fittingly named Legend, along with the likes of Riki Choshu and Masahiro Chono ... Won his first title on NJPW soil since 2003 this February, teaming with AKIRA to lift the IWGP junior tag team championship from Minoru and Prince Devitt ... Still dropping opponents on their head with his dangerous brainbuster.

120 BRENT ALBRIGHT (6', 230, 6, 63)

"Gun For Hire" was once the main muscle behind Larry Sweeney's Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. faction in Ring of Honor ... Previously part of a group known as Hangmen 3 ... Has wrestled in ROH since 2006 ... Master of many suplex variations ... Previously known as Gunner Scott during a short run in WWE, but he has silenced the chants of that name in ROH ... Trained by Mike Modest ... Somewhat surprisingly, he came up short in several bids to win the ROH title last year ... Also known as "The Shooter."

121 BLUE DEMON JR. (5'8", 198, 23, NL)

The son of the "Blue Legend" is becoming as successful as his father ...



Frequently works as an independent luchador ... Continues to score some important victories, both inside and outside of Mexico ...

One of his biggest victories occurred in August, when he unmasked Espectro Jr., even though the fans expected him to lose ... Has been fighting lately in matches involving some of the greatest stars of lucha, like Mil Mascaras and Hijo del Santo ... Frequently teams with Mascara Sagrada for tag team bouts ... Rapidly gaining popularity in the world of lucha libre ... Uses a stunner as his signature maneuver.

122 SHARK BOY (5'10", 180, 11, 258)

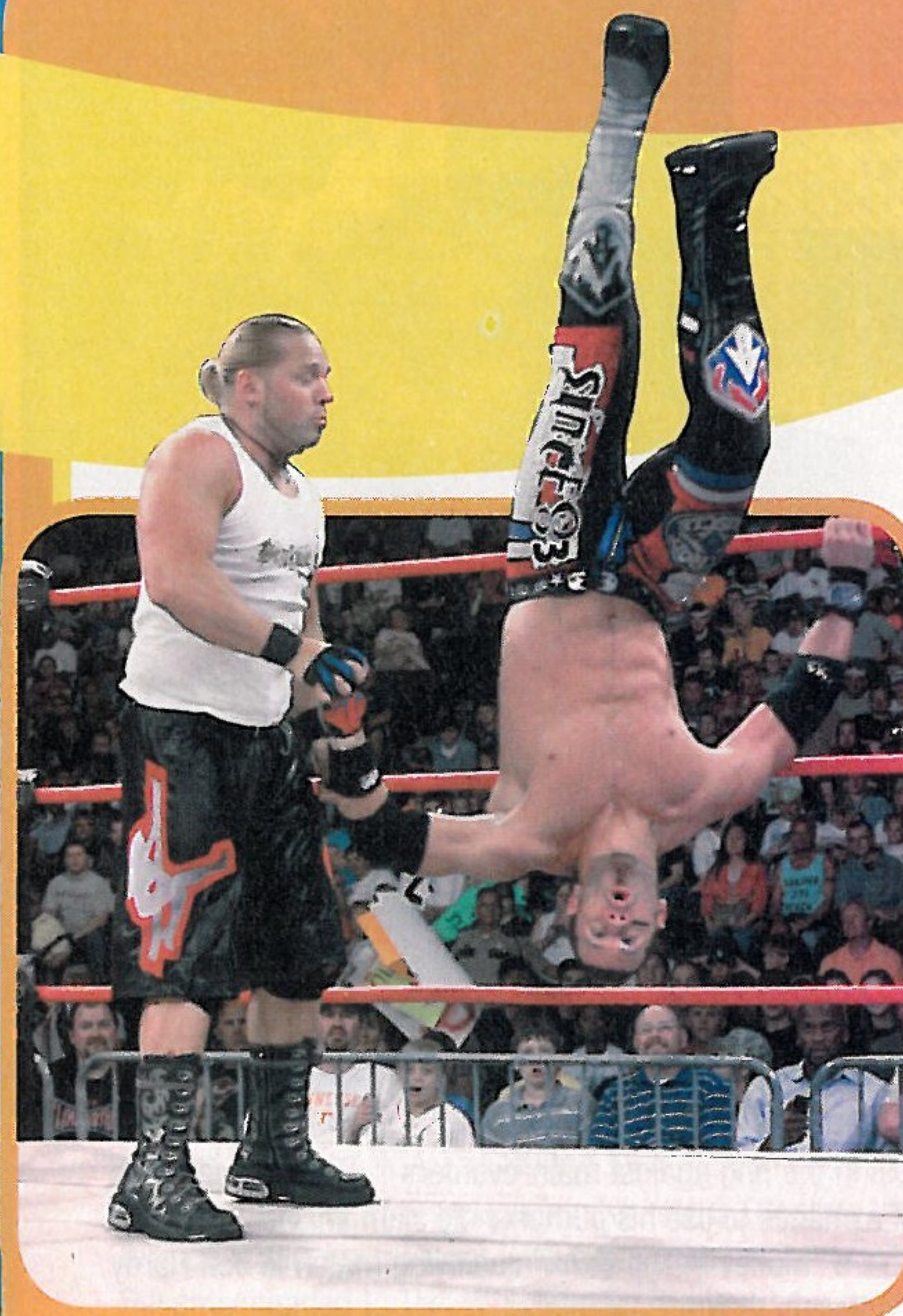
Returned to TNA competition after being in a coma, or so it's been said ... We won't waste time trying to verify that fishy tale ... Tried to be a little tougher by doing a "Stone-Cold" Steve Austin drinking impression, only he was supposedly guzzling clam juice ... Fitting since Shark Boy does use a variation of the stunner as a finisher ... Partnership with Curry Man made a lot of sense ... They had some success, even downing Team 3D in a "Fish Market" streetfight at Destination X in March.

123 HECTOR GARZA (5'10", 202, 16, 104)

After returning from a long hiatus, rejoined Perros del Mal to cause more chaos in CMLL ... Turned tecnico after Perro Aguayo Jr. and his associates kicked him out of the faction ... The shocking breakup led to a hair-vs.-hair match with Aguayo ... Was shaved bald at the hands of Aguayo thanks to the interference of the Perros ... Formed a team with Mistico, defeating Averno and Mephisto for the CMLL tag championship ... After a controversial rematch, the belts were vacated, but Garza and Mistico managed to regain them in a third match ... Led a new stable, Angeles del Ring, composed of young high-flying athletes ... Captured the CMLL trios title with Hijo del Fantasma and La Mascara ... Ends matches with his spectacular tornillo.

124 BLITZ (5'10", 210, 5, NL)

The protégé of Puerto Rican legend Invader 1 was the top man in the International Wrestling Association for much of the past year ... Defeated his former friend, Mr. Big (then the reigning WWC heavyweight champion) to stake his claim as the top singles wrestler in Puerto Rico ... Won the second Jose Miguel Perez Legend Cup tournament in June 2007 ... Finisher is the rabies top double legdrop.



125 JAMIE NOBLE (5'8", 190, 14, 212)

Not many people miss the WWE cruiserweight title, but Noble may be one of them ... Held it for more than five months in 2007, only to lose it to Hornswoggle ... Attempts to cozy up to Smackdown GM Vickie Guerrero were unsuccessful, as Guerrero booked him in mismatches for being disrespectful ... Did well in a feud with Chuck Palumbo that saw him turn fan favorite and come to the aid of Michelle McCool against Palumbo ... Moved to Raw in the 2008 WWE supplemental draft.

126 MATT MORGAN (7', 330, 6, NL)

Still hard to believe WWE once saddled this mammoth *Tough Enough 2* competitor with a stuttering gimmick and then released him ... Debuted in TNA as an assistant to Management Director Jim Cornette, but has since become a full-time wrestler aligned with Team Cage ... Also has experience wrestling in Europe and for both New Japan and All Japan ... Nicknamed "The Blueprint" ... Time for him to start realizing that potential ... Joined the cast of *American Gladiators* for season two as "Beast."

127 BLACK REIGN (6'5", 260, 19, NL)

We all thought Goldust was bizarre, but hang-

ing out with a pet rat named Marlina after his ex-wife, Terri "Marlena" Runnels, takes the cake ... Claims Black Reign is an alter ego that has frightened him since childhood ... So when did Goldust come along? ... Feuded with the since-departed Chris Harris, among others, and fared poorly ... Lost to Abyss in a "Shop Of Horrors" match at Turning Point in November, but he and Relik beat Raven and Abyss in a "10,000 Tacks" bout a month later.

128 BLACK WARRIOR (5'7", 201, 22, 73)

Called by some fans the "Dennis Rodman" of lucha libre, due to his resemblance to the famous basketball player ... Warrior has become one of the top heels on the CMLL roster, and a favorite of the female fans ... In December, Warrior and Rey Bucanero lost their hair at the hands of Shocker and Lizmark Jr. in an incredible tag team hair-vs.-hair match ... The loss did not stop Warrior from scoring some very important wins in trios matches over men like Mistico, Blue Panther, and Marco Corleone ... Usually closes his matches with el nudo lagunero.

129 KEVIN STEEN (5'10", 225, 9, 180)

Quebec native has quickly become a cult favorite in Ring of Honor, even earning the overused nickname "Mr. Wrestling" ... Hot-tempered up-and-comer blends power moves such as the go home driver, package piledriver, and Steenalyzer with aerial favorites such as the moonsault and 450 splash ... Teams regularly with El Generico ... They had a great feud with Mark and Jay Briscoe but never won the ROH tag title ... Also unsuccessfully challenged current ROH champ Nigel McGuinness and previous champ Takeshi Morishima ... Veteran of CHIKARA, Pro Wrestling Guerrilla, and Combat Zone Wrestling.

130 JOHNNY DEVINE (5'10", 222, 11, 210)

With no more Raven and no more Serotonin faction in TNA, Havoc went back to his old ring name ... Betrayed the X division when he aligned himself with Team 3D, who were out to annihilate the division ... Even earned the nickname "Brother Devine" alongside Brothers Ray and Devon ... As obnoxious as ever ... Defeated former Team Canada teammate Petey Williams in November ... With Brother Ray's kendo stick's help, won his first TNA X title in January by beating Jay Lethal, but lost it at Against All Odds in February.

119 TO 130

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131 PAUL BIRCHALL (6'4", 281, 6, 153) Brit with a bad attitude received a decent push on Raw this year ... Accompanied by his gorgeous "sister" Katie Lea, insinuating a storyline none of us wants to see ... We'd rather see him go back to his pirate persona ... He and Katie, a top contender to the women's title, occasionally wrestle in handicap bouts ... Curb stomp is a solid finisher ... Brief feud with Ken Kennedy had its moments ... Probably hoping this won't turn into another scenario in which his star is quickly eclipsed by that of the woman accompanying him (see Mero, Marc).

132 KIP JAMES (6'4", 254, 15, 170) Voodoo Kin Mafia imploded early in 2008 after struggling against the likes of The Motor City Machine Guns and LAX ... While we don't miss them, we wouldn't be surprised to see them reunite ... Ought to change his ring surname if they don't get back together ... Lost to B.G. James at Lockdown ... Raised B.G.'s hand after the match, teasing a reunion, then clotheslined him and did a few crotch chops ... Ah, so 1998 ... Jim Cornette paired him with Matt Morgan in the "Deuces Wild" tag tourney at Sacrifice, but that didn't work.

133 SANGRE AZTECA (5'7", 178, 12, 237) The hard-working young athlete has rapidly increased his popularity, and is slowly entering the group of elite heels in Mexico ... Since joining the Guerreros de la Atlantida, has become a ruthless and aggressive competitor, earning the admiration of the CMLL crowd ... Has successfully defended his Mexican national welterweight championship against tough opponents like Valiente and La Mascara ... Was also involved in an intense feud with one of CMLL's newest additions, Grey Shadow ... Usually teams up with Olimpico and random heels for trios matches ... Finishes his opponents with a dangerous flying stomp.

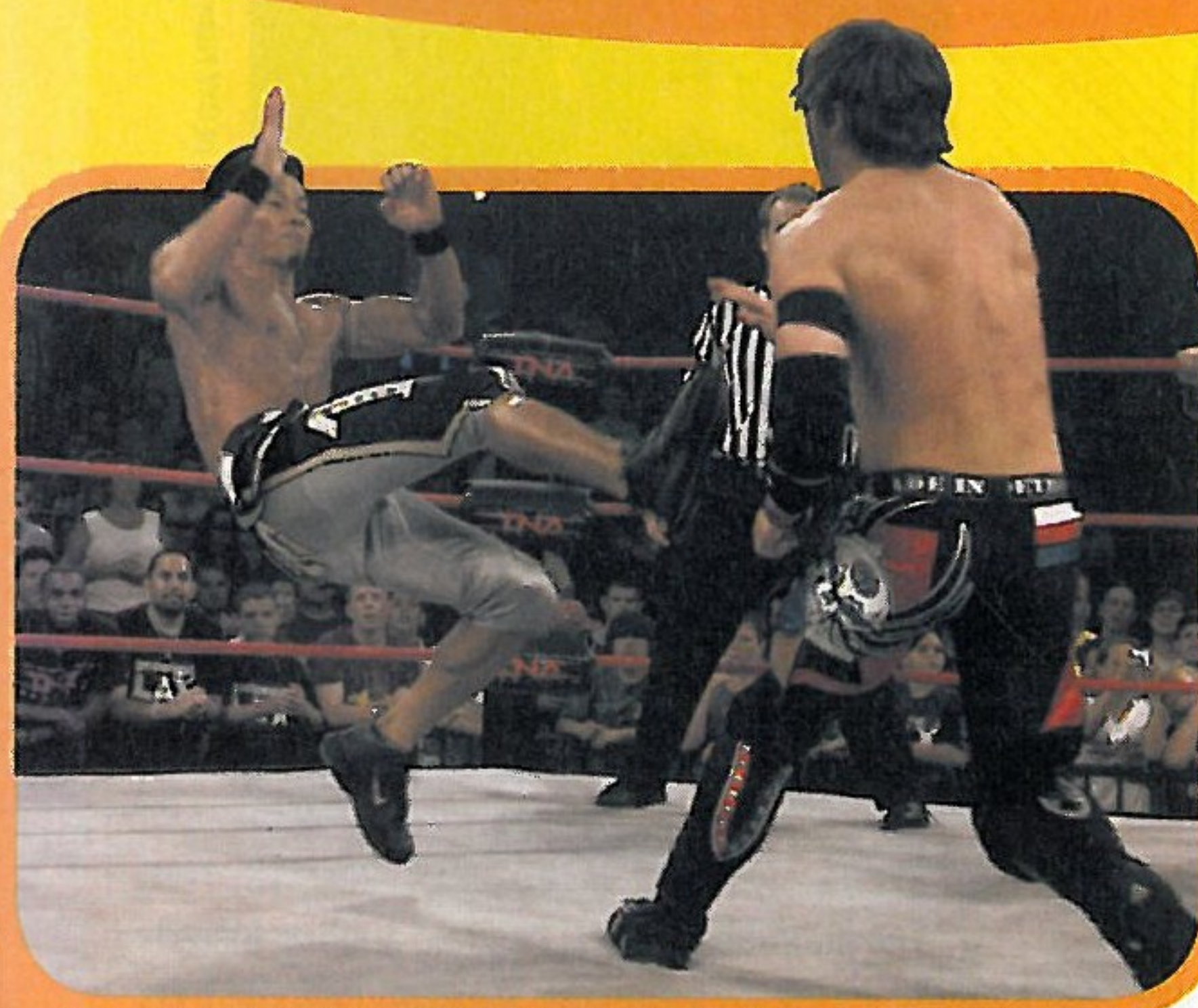
134 SNITSKY (6'4", 310, 10, 130) Probably the ugliest wrestler on the entire WWE roster (sorry, Big Daddy V) ... Dominant during a brief stint on the ECW roster last year before rejoining Raw ... Mowed through undercard competition, but hasn't had much success against top competition since faring surprisingly well against Kane in his first WWE feud ... Now looks a bit



lost in the ring against main-eventers ... Hasn't had much of a chance to use his pumphandle slam finisher of late ... Lost a "Money In The Bank" qualifying match to Jeff Hardy leading up to WrestleMania 24.

135 TOGI MAKABE (5'11", 243, 11, 131) Leader of New Japan's band of miscreants, GBH (Great Bash Heel), Makabe has been one of the promotion's big impact players over the past year ... Performed a coup d'état in GBH to overthrow previous leader Hiroyoshi Tenzan and take control ... Branded an underachiever by critics in the past, he has broken out as a notorious rulebreaker with a big mouth and absolutely no regard for rules and regulations ... Has challenged for the IWGP heavyweight championship several times, almost winning it ... Holds the IWGP tag team championship with Toru Yano.

136 ERICK STEVENS (5'11", 231, 5, 231) Sarasota, Florida, native joined Ring of Honor full-time last year after a spectacular stint in its Florida-based sister promotion, Full Impact Pro ... Recruited by Austin Aries to join the now-disbanded Resilience with Matt Cross ... Beat Strong for the FIP title back in December and had a long feud with him ... Gutwrench power bomb is his finisher ... Also blisters opponents with stiff chops ... Has feuded with Sweet and Sour Inc. ... Challenged Takeshi Morishima when he was ROH champ ... Has defeated former ROH champ Bryan Danielson.



137 MASATO YOSHINO (5'6", 172, 8, 125) One of Dragon Gate's most prominent stars is also considered by many the fastest wrestler on the planet ... Made a habit of collecting gold last year, at one point carrying four titles at once, including Pro Wrestling NOAH's GHC tag team championship ... As a member of Dragon Gate's new World-1 faction, has formed a successful team with close friend Naruki Doi ... Recently headed to TNA Wrestling for the first time for the World X Cup ... He and Doi faced The Motor City Machine Guns in their first TNA match.

138 MR. NIEBLA (5'9", 209, 18, NL) Rudo with the best hip moves in Mexico ... Member of the Vipers Revolution stable ... Usually paired with Psicosis and Histeria ... Skills helped the trio win some important matches ... Took leadership of the stable, kicking out Abismo Negro, the former leader ... Reached the finals of the Rey de Reyes tournament, but lost because of his feud with Abismo ... Introduced an improved copy of Abismo Negro, called Black Abyss ... Surprised the lucha world by jumping from AAA to CMLL to feud with Dr. Wagner Jr. ... Makes his opponents tap out to El Nudo.

139 B.G. JAMES (6'2", 261, 15, 168) He and Kip James broke up Voodoo Kin Mafia earlier this year ... WWE fans didn't care much about the feud nearly a decade ago, and it was an afterthought this time, too ... Won a "Feast Or Famine" match at Against All Odds, earning a shot at the TNA World tag title ... Chose his 68-year-old father, Bob Armstrong, rather than Kip to be his partner ... Would have been a good decision had he been able to channel the 1982 version of his dad ... B.G. and his pop lost to A.J. Styles

and Tomko, and Kip attacked them afterward ... Don't expect a big singles push.

140 ZACK RYDER (6'1", 205, 4, 271) Had just a slightly (and we mean slightly) better year than his fellow La Familia lackey, Curt Hawkins ... Formerly known as Brett Major of The Major Brothers ... He and Hawkins are in one of those win-lose situations ... They're getting main-event exposure as members of Edge's entourage, but their role is ostensibly to take beatings in protecting Edge and Vickie Guerrero ... They won the OVW Southern tag title last summer by beating Charles Evans and Justin "The Ox" LaRouche ... LaRouche is now Bam Neely, also in La Familia ... Ryder and Hawkins first dressed as Edge at Armageddon and helped him beat Batista for the Smackdown World title.

141 CURT HAWKINS (6'1", 220, 4, 273) Formerly known as Brian Major ... He and partner Zack Ryder (formerly known as Brett Major) have ascended from OVW to ECW and are now members of Smackdown's elite stable, La Familia ... He and his partner's resemblance to Edge earned them spots as "Edgeheads," look-alikes who frequently run into Edge's matches ... Considered favorites to win John Morrison and The Miz' Smackdown World tag team title ... Team got their start in the New York Wrestling Connection promotion ... Both were trained by Mikey Whipwreck in Deep South Wrestling, a former WWE developmental territory ... Edgeheads use a double lifting DDT—a version of the Edgecution—to score most of their victories ... Hawkins' personal finishing fave is the missile dropkick.

142 JUVENTUD GUERRERA (5'5", 165, 16, 144) "Juvi Juice" has remained one of the top stars among AAA fans, mainly with the female crowd ... As the leader of the Mexican Powers, competed in many trios and tag team bouts, along with Joe Lider and Crazy Boy ... Feuded with Halloween and his Tijuana Family in some gruesome hardcore matches ... The departures of Extreme Tiger and Lider have left Juventud's team severely damaged, but the "Juice" continues to win important bouts ... Also feuded with the Hart Foundation 2.0 and Lider's newly created stable La Hermandad ... Frequently ends his matches with the move calls the Juvi driver.

131 TO 142

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143 EL GENERICO (5'11", 185, 6, 244)

Gained fame when he and Quicksilver won the Pro Wrestling Guerrilla tag team title in 2007, but became an indy sensation when he and Kevin Steen formed an exciting tandem in Ring of Honor ... He and Steen feuded with The Briscoe Brothers, culminating in an incredible tag team ladder match at "Man Up" in 2007 ... The Montreal native achieved success in the U.S. by adopting the Mexican lucha libre style ... Indeed, Generico's career has been international in scope, as he has toured Mexico, Ireland, Great Britain, Switzerland, and Japan in 2008 alone ... Pet finisher is a brainbuster from the second rope, but the fans enjoy his olé kick, a running kick to the face that gives them an excuse to shout, "Olé!"



Photo by John Giamundo/WWE/Courtesy of CW Network

146 MR. AGUILA (5'8", 200, 13, 109)

The international heel has had another incredible year in CMLL ... Since losing the Mexican national trios title, Aguila has become a dangerous opponent, due to his arsenal of high-flying moves and his membership in the Perros del Mal stable ... Has earned the nickname of "The Only Dog That Can Fly" ... His new hairstyles have earned him more popularity ... Unsuccessfully challenged Rey Bucanero for the CMLL light heavyweight title ... Frequently teams up with Perro Aguayo Jr. and Damián 666, and has won high-profile matches, mainly in Arena Mexico ... Usually finishes his matches with a moonsault.

147 JESSE (5'10", 215, 8, 306)

Real name is Terrance Ray Gordy Jr., son of the legendary Fabulous Freebird ... Teams with Festus ... Formerly known as The Daltons ... For the past year, Jesse and Festus have been firmly stuck in the middle of Smackdown's tag team division, along with Curt Hawkins and Zack Ryder and the team of Shannon Moore and Jimmy Wang Yang ... Looks out for Festus, who is the much dimmer of the two ... Was a standout in WWE's developmental territories, Deep South Wrestling and Ohio Valley Wrestling ... His complicated finisher is a swinging leg hook into a fireman's carry ... A former NWA Wildside champion.

148 JOE DOERING (6'5", 297, 3, NL)

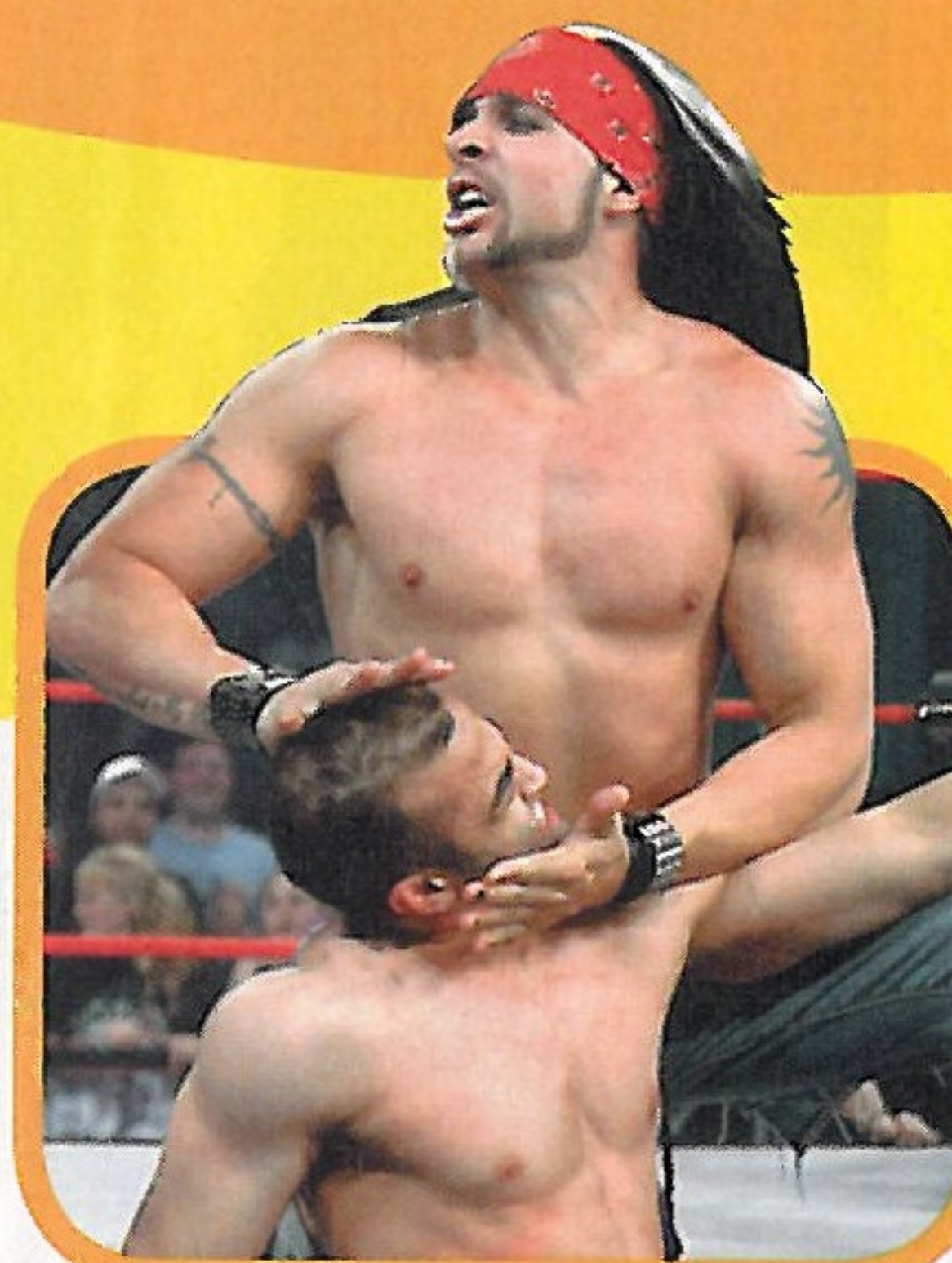
This Canadian star found fame halfway around the world in Japan, where he's considered one of the most promising *gaijin* wrestlers ... Debuted with All Japan in June of last year ... Teamed with Keiji Muto to win the heralded Real World Tag League tournament on December 9, 2007 ... He and Muto defeated Satoshi Kojima and TARU for the All Japan International tag team title on January 3, 2008 ... Originally trained at Scott D'Amore's Wrestling School in Windsor, Ontario ... Signature moves include the backdrop suplex, Canadian backbreaker, and Lou Thesz press ... With Muto as a mentor, Doering is destined for great success.

144 JIMMY WANG YANG (5'9", 185, 9, 110)

He and Shannon Moore enjoyed surprising success in 2007, emerging as serious threats to then-Smackdown World tag team champs Deuce and Domino and current champions John Morrison and The Miz ... His gimmick as an Asian redneck was enormously popular, especially at house shows, with "I'm Gonna Have To Punch Someone Tonight" becoming his anthem ... His biggest singles victory was a win over Ted DiBiase Jr. on May 16 in a dark match before Smackdown ... Squashed by Vladimir Kozlov three weeks later ... Uses a corkscrew 450 splash as his most dangerous finisher ... Received a 30-day suspension on June 9 for violating WWE's Wellness Policy.

145 JACK EVANS (5'8", 165, 8, 149)

He and Ruckus, as The Vulture Squad, have scored some impressive victories in Ring of Honor of late, including wins over The Briscoe Brothers and the team of Brent Albright and Chris Hero ... Suffered facial injuries in March, but returned to the ring about a month later ... The "Prince Of Parkland, Washington" is a well-traveled star, having competed for ROH, Full-Impact Pro, Pro Wrestling Guerrilla, Wrestling Society X, and various Japanese promotions ... A knock against Evans is that he travels too much without cementing roots in one promotion ... Who would have thought this lightweight star would suffer from an Andre the Giant complex? ... A former member of ROH's Generation Next ... Master of several 630 senton variations.



149 VLADIMIR KOZLOV (6'6", 310, 3, 300)

Continues to gain slow—but steady—momentum on Smackdown ... His list of victories seems like a who's who of cruiserweight and tag team wrestling ... Finisher is a scoop lift into a reverse DDT ... Abandoned the torture rack backbreaker he used in Ohio Valley ... Defeated Paul Birchall for the OVW title in July of last year, but he immediately allowed himself to be pinned by Mike Krueh due to an agreement before the match ... The 2005 USA Open heavyweight sambo champion and the 2005 U.S. Kickboxing Association International heavyweight grappling champion ... Excelled in American football in the Ukraine and Santa Barbara College.

150 LANCE HOYT (6'7", 270, 8, 159)

Teams with Jimmy Rave as The Rock and Rave Infection ... Lets Christy Hemme do all of his talking for him ... The duo has won a couple of big victories in 2008, defeating Scott Steiner and Petey Williams in January, and teaming with Hemme to beat Homicide, Hernandez, and Salinas in March ... Joined Hemme after turning against The Voodoo Kin Mafia to assist Basham and Damaja ... Sealed the deal by kissing Hemme ... After a successful high school career, Hoyt aspired to be a pro football player ... Enrolled in Solo Fiatalo's wrestling school in Texas when that didn't work out ... Uses the Texas tornado slam, a spinning fireman's carry into a facebuster.

151 MIKE KNOX (6'6", 260, 10, 220)

Sent from ECW to WWE's developmental program in Deep South Wrestling and then Florida Championship Wrestling in 2007 ... Returned to ECW on September 11 of last year ... Defeated Mahoney in his return ... Hopes that Knox was on a path to superstardom were dashed when he lost to Mahoney the following week ... Lost to then-ECW

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champ C.M. Punk ... Enjoyed mixed success against Stevie Richards ... Beat Tommy Dreamer in an extreme rules match on the 100th episode of ECW on Sci Fi ... Uses a spinning reverse STO as his finisher ... Has barely cracked the top 10 of the ECW ratings ... Kelly Kelly has no reason to take him back.

152 B.J. WHITMER (6'1", 230, 8, 118)

Seemed on his way to becoming an impact player in Ring of Honor when he left the promotion in March ... Whitmer, Brent Albright, and Adam Pearce formed The Hangmen 3 in September of last year ... There was dissension when Albright and Pearce opted to join Larry Sweeney's Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. ... ROH issued a press release upon Whitmer's departure, praising his immense contribution to the company ... Uses a reverse piledriver as his finishing move ... Rose to prominence in the Heartland Wrestling Association, where he dated Helena Heavenly ... Underwent surgery after suffering a hand injury during a June 18 match in Japan.

153 JOEY MATTHEWS (5'9", 213, 12, 155)

This has been a year of rebuilding for the former WWE superstar ... Released from WWE in March 2007 and has since become a presence in Ring of Honor and several other independent promotions ... Debuted on January 25 as the newest member of The Age of the Fall, teaming with Jimmy Jacobs in a losing effort against Rocky Romero and Roderick Strong ... Lost to Mark Briscoe the following night ... A win over Jigsaw is his only ROH singles victory to date ... Serves as a trainer for Ohio Valley Wrestling ... Beat Jamin Olivencia for the OVW TV title in March ... Lost the belt to Tommy McNaler a month later ... His finisher is the double-arm DDT.

154 BIG DADDY V (6'10", 496, 17, 255)

Recently sent to Smackdown as part of the 2008 supplemental draft ... Experienced a career rebirth in the summer of 2007 when he was drafted to ECW ... Won an "Elimination Chase" competition to become the top contender to C.M. Punk's ECW title ... Lost to Punk at No Mercy ... Formed a colossal team with Mark Henry ... The duo lost to Punk and Kane at Armageddon ... His highest-profile appearance of 2008 occurred at No Way Out, where he was involved in a six-man "Elimination Chamber" match, which The Undertaker won ... Uses the ghetto drop as his finisher, a variation of the Samoan drop.

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155 MASAHIRO CHONO (6'1", 238, 24, NL) The man labeled "Black Charisma" remains loyal to New Japan Pro Wrestling despite years of turmoil and upheaval ... Wrestles less regularly these days due to age and injuries, but remains a threat to anyone he faces ... Last August he founded Legend, a faction of NJPW legends that has been a dominant force ever since ... Has had success promoting shows for NJPW and now produces his own sub-brand called Premium, uniting wrestlers from various promotions by using his political power ... Still uses several variations of his famous yakuza kick.

156 DELIRIOUS (5'11", 192, 7, 88) This masked wonder has been a fixture of Ring of Honor's top 10 for the past two years ... Became more aggressive after The Hangmen 3 stapled his mask to his face ... Developed a crush on Daizee Haze, but Rhett Titus always seems to get her attention ... Put forth a valiant effort against Ring of Honor champion Nigel McGuinness in a non-title bout in March ... Serves as head trainer of the ROH training school ... His top submission hold is a stretching cobra clutch ... Also wrestles in IWA Mid-South, CHIKARA, and the International Wrestling Cartel.

157 MIKE QUACKENBUSH (6', 191, 17, 177) The reigning NWA junior heavyweight champion is the heart and soul of Pennsylvania-based CHIKARA ... The promotion's annual "King Of Trios" tournament was his brainchild ... Defeated Chuck Taylor and protégé Claudio Castagnoli in the three-way final of the "Ted Petty Invitational" tournament on September 1 of last year ... Won Taylor's IWA Mid-South light heavyweight title in the process ... Teamed with another protégé, Jigsaw, in Ring of Honor, and faced stars such as Castagnoli, Matt Sydal, and Bryan Danielson ... Known for the Quackendriver, an inverted crucifix power bomb.

158 MILANO COLLECTION A.T. (6', 187, 8, 61) Flamboyant and charismatic, Milano traveled the world before returning to Japan and making New Japan his home ... A member of Shinsuke Nakamura's RISE faction, a gathering of stylish young wrestlers ... After winning last year's "Best Of The Super Juniors"



tournament, he focused on making a name for himself in NJPW's heavyweight division ... Was chosen by New Japan to represent Team Japan in TNA's 2008 World X Cup ... Boasts some of the most spectacular holds ever devised, but also likes to use an effective head spike called the Victoria Milanese to finish off opponents.

159 SHANNON MOORE (5'8", 175, 13, 268) Ended a terrible losing streak on a September 2007 edition of Smackdown when he defeated Jamie Noble, his first televised singles victory since 2005 ... Returned to his usual form two weeks later when he lost the televised rematch to Noble ... Formed a surprisingly effective team with Jimmy Wang Yang ... They became a serious threat to Smackdown World tag team champions John Morrison and The Miz ... Lost to Vladimir Kozlov in May ... His finishing move is the halo, a corkscrew senton off the turnbuckles.

160 JIMMY RAVE (5'11", 186, 8, 142) Returned to TNA in September and formed The Rock and Rave Infection with Lance Hoyt ... Christy Hemme is their enthusiastic valet ... The Motor City Machine Guns and The Latin American Exchange have outclassed the Infection in tag team competition, however ... Embarked on a tour of New Japan, earning victories over Tetsuya Naito and AKIRA, both with his rock the world finisher, which is a swinging leg hook into a fireman's carry slam ... A veteran of Ring of Honor, Full Impact Pro, and Pro Wrestling Guerrilla ... Spent his formative years in NWA Wildside, which also spawned A.J. Styles and Abyss.



Photo by Koichi Yoshizawa

161 RELLIK (6', 245, 9, NL) Recently announced he had departed TNA ... His partnership with Black Reign never seemed to work, as both lost to Super Eric in a "Cuffed In The Cage" match at Lockdown in April ... His Rellik persona was based on a character named Redrum (murder spelled backward) that he had developed on the independent scene ... Signed with TNA after competing as Redrum and The Unknown Wrestler in WWE dark matches ... Formerly known as Johnny "The Bull" Stamboli.

162 NECRO BUTCHER (6'2", 230, 10, NL) Best described as a cross between Mick Foley and Bruiser Brody ... His name literally means "Butcher Of Death" ... Forged his violent persona in Combat Zone Wrestling and IWA: Mid-South ... Chose Ring of Honor as his unlikely home in 2007 ... Feuded with The Briscoe Brothers and The Age of the Fall with various partners ... Tends to do best in three- and four-way free-for-alls ... Scored an impressive win over Full Impact Pro champ Roderick Strong in a non-title bout in April ... Uses a double-underhook sitout power bomb as his finisher.

163 EDDIE COLON (5'10", 220, 9, 198) He and Eric Perez comprise The Puerto Rican Nightmares in WWE's developmental territory, Florida

Championship Wrestling ... They defeated Steve Lewington and Heath Miller to become the first-ever FCW tag team champions on February 23 ... The Nightmares traded the belts with Brad Allen and Nic Nemeth before dropping them to Drew McIntyre and Stu Sanders on May 7 ... The son of Puerto Rico legend Carlos Colon and the younger brother of WWE star Carlito ... A six-time holder of the WWC Universal championship, a title that his father made famous ... His finishing move is the cannonball twist-er, a corkscrew senton.

164 YOSHIHIRO TAKAYAMA (6'5", 275, 16, NL) The most imposing figure in Japanese wrestling, Takayama continues to prowl the circuit as a freelancer ... After suffering a stroke during NJPW's 2004 G1 Climax, he spent two years recovering before finally returning in Pro Wrestling NOAH in 2006 ... Since returning, he has not been able to reach his old heights, rarely venturing out of tag matches ... Likes to team with a fellow alum of the famous UWF promotion, Takuma Sano ... Feuded last year with former Team No Fear tag partner Takao Omori, a grudge that saw much bloodshed.

165 DEUCE (6'2", 230, 9, 207) He and Domino lost the Smackdown World tag team title to Matt Hardy and Montel Vontavious Porter in August, sparking a terrible losing streak ... The '50s-styled tandem lost to Jesse and Festus, Ted DiBiase Jr. and Kofi Kingston, and Finlay and Hornswoggle, just to name a few ... The adopted son of "Superfly" Jimmy Snuka ... Got into the wrestling business relatively late ... Will turn 37 on September 1 ... Sent to Raw as part of the 2008 supplemental draft ... Without Domino, this will be a make-or-break year for Deuce.

166 MATT STRIKER (5'10", 219, 9, 173) Recently sent from ECW to Raw as part of the 2008 supplemental draft ... Perhaps that will mean a jumpstart to his in-ring career, which he put on hold to manage Big Daddy V and, occasionally, Mark Henry ... Was on the receiving end of Mick Foley's mandible claw during the April 29 edition of "Matt Striker's Classroom" on ECW television ... Lost to the undefeated Kofi Kingston on the 100th episode of ECW on Sci Fi ... His finishing maneuver is the golden rule, an inverted overdrive.

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167 CHICANO (6', 225, 6, NL) This former Puerto Rican favorite is showing signs of turning hero again ... Complained after a June 28 match in which Joe Bravo helped him and Damien beat Mr. Big and Blitz ... Also disobeyed Commissioner Savio Vega's order not to wrestle Dennis Rivera at the Jose Miguel Perez Cup ... Mixes high-flying with various leglocks, including the figure-four ... A three-time IWA heavyweight champion.

168 MIKE DiBIASE (6', 200, 2, 480) Money couldn't buy him a better wrestling surname ... He is the son of Ted DiBiase Sr. and the older brother of Ted DiBiase Jr. ... His grandfather, also named Mike DiBiase, and his grandmother, Helen Hild, were wrestlers ... Formed a regular tandem with another third-generation wrestler, Ricky Romero III ... Came back from a torn ACL in 2007 ... Became the third DiBiase to hold a version of the North American title, which he won at an NWA show in December ... Trained by Chris Youngblood and eight-time NWA World champion Harley Race.

169 DOMINO (6'3", 245, 10, 203) Domino will be going solo after his recent split with longtime partner Deuce ... The



Photo By Blake Arledge

former Smackdown tag champs went on a long losing streak after dropping the belts to Matt Hardy and Montel Vontavious Porter last summer ... He and Deuce traded in Cherry for vivacious French tart Maryse Ouellet ... After they lost to Jesse and Festus for the second straight week, Deuce blindsided Domino with a "crack 'em in da mouth" to end their partnership ... Deuce was drafted to Raw the following week ... Lost to Vladimir Kozlov on June 26 ... Utilizes an interesting vertical suplex piledriver.

170 STEVE CORINO (6'1", 225, 14, 187) Embarked on a retirement tour in late-2007, which included losses to Masato Tanaka and Billy Kidman in the Australian Wrestling Federation ... Lost to D.H. Smith and Kofi Kingston in WWE dark matches ... Word was that former rival Dusty Rhodes was interested in bringing him into the company ... The "King Of Old School" hasn't truly retired yet, although Mr. Wrestling III—whose physique is eerily similar to Corino's—has been wrestling most of his dates ... Mr. Wrestling II is the masked man's adviser in Hawaii Championship Wrestling ... Prefers an old-fashioned Barry Windham-style lariat to finish his matches.

171 SHAWN SPEARS (6'3", 235, 6, 160) This Ontario native is now competing in WWE's developmental territory, Florida Championship Wrestling ... Best known for his stints as holder of the Ohio Valley TV title, which sparked feuds with Cody Runnels (Rhodes), Ted McNaler, and Colt Cabana ... Had love-hate relationships with Runnels and Cabana, holding the OVW tag team championship with each ... His finishing maneuver is the Death Valley driver ... Trained by Eric Young ... Nicknamed the "Canadian Sensation."

172 MARCO CORLEONE (6'6", 265, 9, 140) "Italian-American Eagle" continues to turn heads wherever he goes ... Considered one of the top favorites among CMLL's female fans, mainly due to his typical foreign looks and muscular body ... Fully adapted to the fast-paced style of lucha and imminently started climbing the ladder to the main event ... Had notable feuds against the Perros del Mal stable and the Guerreros de la Atlantida ... Usually teams up with Dos Caras Jr. to form the Twin Towers of CMLL ... Saved his hair in a 10-man cage match ... Explodes off the top turnbuckle to strike his

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173 BRYAN LOGAN (5'11", 215, 5, NL)

Lost the Chaotic Wrestling heavyweight title to Alex Arion on June 6 ... Considers Massachusetts-based Chaotic Wrestling to be his home promotion ... A native of Lowell, Massachusetts ... Formerly teamed with his in-ring brother, Matt Logan ... Stripped of the ECWA Mid-Atlantic belt in March because of his lack of title defenses ... His finisher is the TKO.

174 YOSHINOBU KANEMARU (5'8", 187, 12, NL)

A crafty veteran of 12 years, Kanemaru has enjoyed a record four reigns as Pro Wrestling NOAH's GHC junior heavyweight champion ... Was the first holder of the title and is the current holder, having beaten Mushiking Terry last October ... Seems comfortable as champion following recent victories over Ricky Marvin, Rocky Romero, and Magnitude Kishiwada, but if Marufuji or KENTA turn their eyes toward the belt, Kanemaru may have a tough task holding on to it ... Ends matches with the touch out, a twisting brainbuster.

175 GLEN OSBOURNE (6'1", 260, 18, NL)

This husky veteran has rejuvenated his career on the East Coast after making fewer appearances over the past couple of years ... Pinned Larry Zbyszko for the WWWA U.S. title in August 2007 ... His finishing move is the chokeslam ... Known for his strong showings in the



ECWA, PCW, MEWF, ISPW, and the original ECW ... Was ranked in 12 straight "PWI 500s," from 1994 through 2005 ... Trained by some of the most influential Northeast wrestlers of the early-'90s, including D.C. Drake and Larry Winters.

176 MANABU NAKANISHI (6'1", 265, 16, 116)

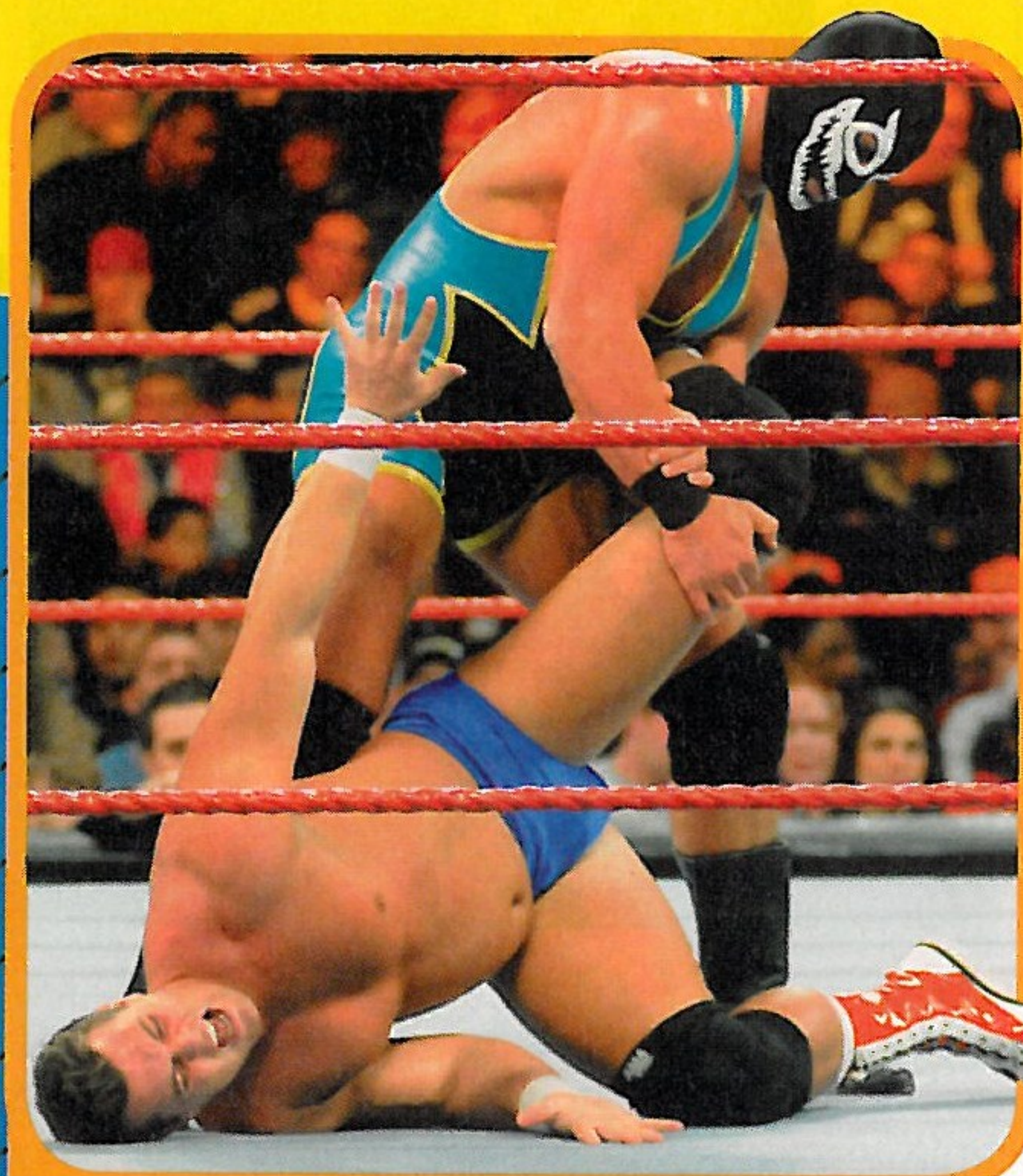
This mainstay in New Japan Pro Wrestling represented Japan as an amateur wrestler in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics ... Despite having beaten the majority of Japan's top names, is still hunting for a singles title, having fallen just short many times ... Has led NJPW's rivalry with the ZERO1-MAX promotion in 2008, defeating top stars such as Shinjiro Otani, Takao Omori, and Tatsuhiro Takaiwa ... Recently invaded All Japan in preparation for a shot at Keiji Muto's IWGP heavyweight championship ... Debuted a new style of German suplex to pin TNA's Abyss at the Tokyo Dome in January.

177 SHAD GASPARD (6'6", 270, 5, 193)

Entered an uncertain phase of his career when WWE released him and his partner, JTG, on September 2, 2007 ... Cryme Tyme appeared on the independent circuit, most notably Jersey All-Pro Wrestling ... He and JTG returned to WWE in March and resumed their winning ways ... The duo has defeated some of WWE's top stars, including Lance Cade and Trevor Murdoch, Charlie Haas and Snitsky, Santino Marella and Carlito, and Deuce and Domino ... Got his love of fighting and competition from his father, who had a reputation as a street-gang enforcer ... Has had numerous scrapes with the law.

178 GO SHIOZAKI (6', 231, 4, 429)

Pro Wrestling NOAH's biggest hope for the future, Shiozaki is a young heavyweight who shows remarkable promise ... After struggling to move up the card, headed to America in February to become a regular for Ring of Honor in hopes of learning new tricks ... Recently challenged Nigel McGuinness for the ROH championship, but fell short ... Has unenviable expectations on his back from fans because of being the successor to his teacher, the legendary Kenta Kobashi ... Devised his own finishing move called the Go flasher, a vertical suplex lift into an elbowdrop.



179 ERIC PEREZ (6'3", 246, 8, NL)

Although Perez was signed to a WWE developmental contract as early as 2005, he didn't begin to make strides until joining Florida Championship Wrestling in the summer of 2007 ... Suffered a back injury and underwent surgery in late-2007 ... Lost singles matches to Steve Lewington and Sheamus O'Shaunessy in early-2008 ... Achieved his first success in the mainland U.S. as Eddie Colon's partner in The Puerto Rican Nightmares ... They became the first-ever FCW tag team champions in February, enjoying a total of three title reigns since that time ... Uses a lifting DDT as his finishing maneuver.

180 RORY FOX (5'9", 220, 9, NL)

Has enjoyed most of his recent success in River City Wrestling, based in San Antonio, Texas ... Lost to Stevie Richards on ECW's weekly show on February 12 ... Has been the most successful in the Cincinnati-based Heartland Wrestling Association, where he has held the heavyweight, tag team, cruiserweight, and TV titles ... Uses a full-nelson slam as one of his finishers ... Trained by Les Thatcher.

181 DRAGON KID (6', 231, 11, 111)

A spectacular high-flyer, Dragon Kid remains one of Ultimo Dragon's most famous pupils and remains masked,

even after several matches with stipulations that put his cowl at risk ... Was told as a youngster he was too small to wrestle and started out as a referee in FMW before enrolling in the Ultimo Dragon Gym ... Despite being 32 now, he still moves at a blinding pace and uses moves that men 10 years his junior wouldn't attempt ... Master of many jaw-dropping moves, most famously the Dragonrana, a forward flip huracanrana from the top rope.

182 TORU YANO (6'1", 254, 6, NL)

An up-and-coming brawler in New Japan Pro Wrestling, Yano is a key member of the GBH faction ... Won his first title in February when he and Togi Makabe captured the IWGP tag team championship from Giant Bernard and Travis Tomko ... Known a tag specialist, but performed respectably in NJPW's 2007 G1 Climax and reached the semifinals of the 2008 New Japan Cup by pinning TNA's Rhino, before going down to Giant Bernard ... A heavy drinker and proud of it, often carrying an oversized bottle of sake to the ring with him.

183 JOEY RYAN (5'10", 210, 7, 224)

He and Karl Anderson have dominated the NWA tag team scene as the reigning champions for most of the past year ... Considered a founding father of Pro Wrestling Guerrilla ... The longest-reigning PWG heavyweight champ of all-time ... With his bushy mustache and sideburns, Ryan no longer resembles the all-American boy that he seemed to be in Ultimate Pro Wrestling several years ago ... Has lost to Mark Henry, The Big Show, and Super Crazy in WWE dark matches during 2007-08 ... His finishing maneuver is an elevated swinging neckbreaker.

184 CHARLIE HAAS (6'2", 255, 12, 162)

It is a mystery why this two-time Big East wrestling champion continues to struggle to find his niche in WWE ... Formed an unlikely team with Snitsky in late-2007 ... Adopted a gimmick at the onset of 2008 in which he would crawl under the ring and emerge with a mask in the middle of his matches ... Would return to the ring with a bizarre wrestling style and renewed energy ... Defeated Robbie McAllister in the final episode of *Heat* on *www.com* ... Began using a cloverleaf catapult backbreaker in mid-2007 ... He and his late brother, Russ, were inducted into the Jersey All-Pro Wrestling Hall of Fame last year.

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185 JTG (6'1", 245, 4, 199) Cryme Tyme had a terrific win-loss record and tremendous momentum feuding with Lance Cade and Trevor Murdoch when WWE released them last September ... The reason was widely believed to be disciplinary problems ... Six months later, JTG and Shad Gaspard picked up where they left off, defeating Cade and Murdoch in their televised return to Raw ... Made a few indy appearances, including matches for Jersey All Pro Wrestling, in the interim ... A native of Harlem, New York ... Signature move is a diving leg lariat ... Formerly known as The Neighborhoodie.

Photo by Joe Zanolle



186 KEVIN NASH (7', 321, 17, NL) On a collision course with TNA World champion Samoa Joe ... Nash's interference helped Joe retain the World title in a five-way "King Of The Mountain" match at Slammiversary ... Joe didn't care for Nash's help and accused him of taking too much credit for his success ... His combination of size and cunning still makes him a formidable opponent in the ring, but his age and knees prevent him from competing on a genuine main-event level ... Still uses the jackknife power bomb ... Has held one WWF World and five WCW World titles ... Founding father of The New World Order ... Played basketball at the University of Tennessee.

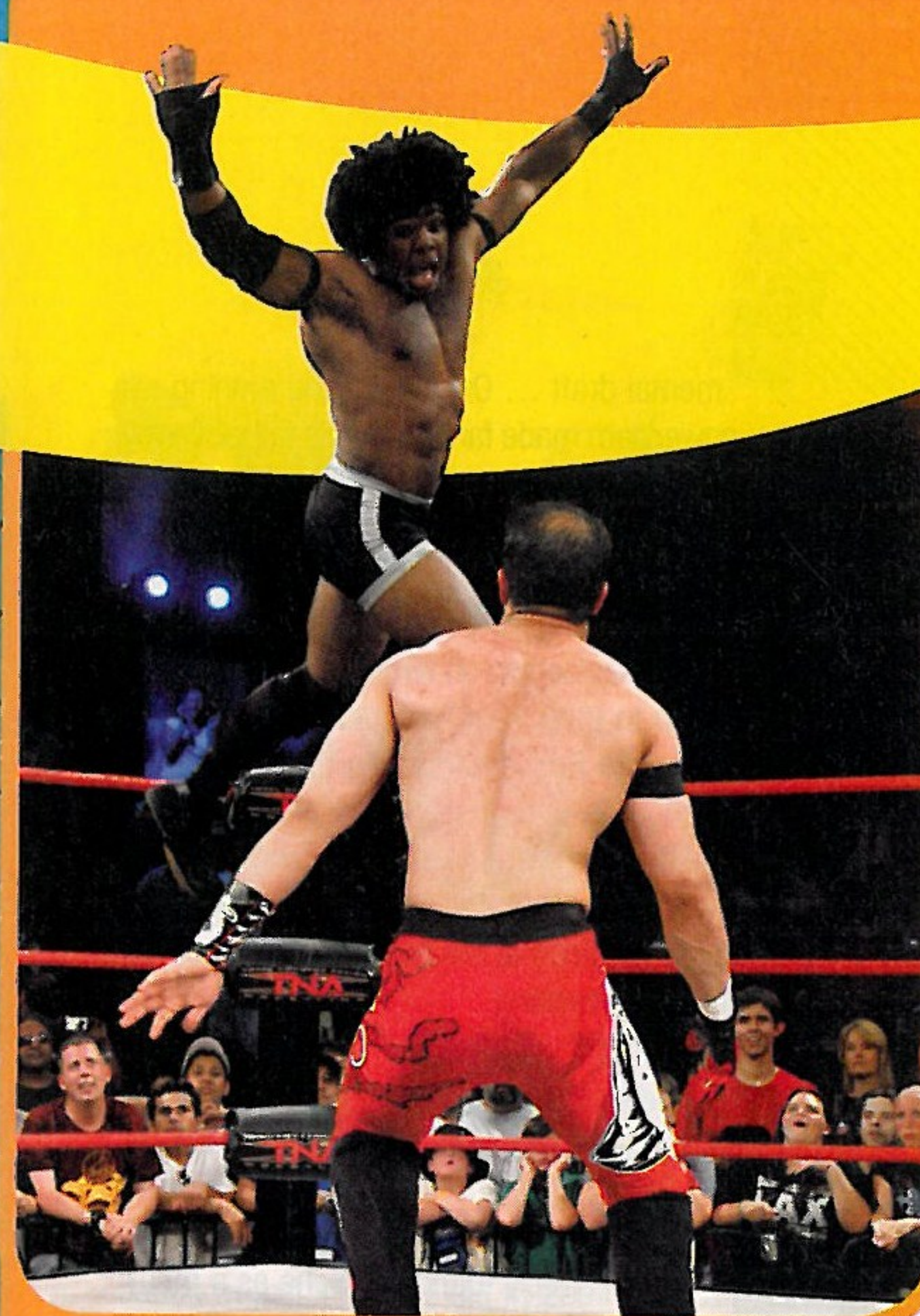
187 TED DiBIASE JR. (6'4", 230, 2, 470) Co-holder of the Raw World tag team title with Cody Rhodes ... Announced that he had a partner that would help him win the tag straps, and it turned out to be Rhodes, who turned against his championship partner, Hardcore Holly, at Night of Champions ... Joins The Rock, Chavo Guerrero Jr., Randy Orton, D.H. Smith, and Natalya as a third-generation superstar in WWE ... Signed a developmental contract with WWE back in July 2007, and won the FCW Southern title the following December ... Uses his father's million-dollar dream hold ... Calls himself "Simply Priceless."

188 HUMAN TORNADO (6'3", 171, 5, 219) Suffered a torn ACL and dislocated kneecap during an April 25 match in Juggalo Championship Wrestling ... Is expected to miss up to a year ... That stopped Tornado's tremendous momen-

tum, just as he was gaining a foothold in Ring of Honor ... Has defeated Chris Hero in Pro Wrestling Guerrilla, but hasn't had the same luck against Hero in ROH ... Emerged as the crowd favorite at the ECWA "Super 8" tournament in November ... Lost to Sonjay Dutt in the first round ... Uses a tornado DDT that puts most others' to shame.

189 NIC NEMETH (6', 210, 4, 250) Lost a string of matches in his final days in Ohio Valley last year, including losses to Paul Birchall and Vladimir Kozlov ... Sent to Florida Championship Wrestling in September as part of WWE's developmental program ... Teamed with Brad Allen to defeat Eddie Colon and Eric Perez for the tag team title on March 22 ... Lost to Ron Killings in a WWE dark match on May 12 ... A former Raw tag champ as a member of The Spirit Squad ... The standing moonsault is his finisher.

190 CHRIS HARRIS (6'2", 238, 7, 66) Bolted from TNA to seek greater fame in WWE ... His current "500" ranking indicates he wasn't successful ... Has been on WWE television only in preliminary roles since his January 29 contract signing ... Lost to Shelton Benjamin in his WWE debut on March 11 ... Now training in Florida Championship Wrestling ... Became disgruntled in TNA when he was relegated to a feud with Dustin Rhodes after his rivalry with former America's Most Wanted partner James Storm simmered down ... His finishing maneuver is the catatonic, a swinging sideslam.



191 VOLADOR JR. (5'7", 182, 11, 147) Considered one of CMLL's best high-flyers ... The "Flying Novice" is the son of Volador/Super Parka ... During the summer, he won the Mexican national trios title from Los Perros del Mal, teaming with El Sagrado and La Sombra ... Entered a short feud with Perro Aguayo Jr. that ended in an intense set of trios and singles matches ... Joined the newly formed stable Angeles de Ring, where he is one of the key players ... Uses a spectacular asai moonsault as his signature maneuver.

192 LA SOMBRA (5'7", 177, 5, 389) This young athlete is improving at a fast rate and becoming one of CMLL's future top workers ... Comes from a strong luchador family in the area of the Comarca Lagunera ... Captured the Mexican national trios title by defeating the Perros del Mal with Volador Jr. and El Sagrado ... Has formed a young and promising trio with the belts ... The biggest win of his career came in the fall, when he defeated Japan's Hajime Ohara for the NWA welterweight title ... Since winning the title, has successfully defended it against opponents like Mephisto and Misterioso II ... Finishes his matches with the split-legged moonsault.

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193 HEATH MILLER (6'2", 235, 3, NL) Spent much of his time focused on the career of his charge, Shawn McGrath, but entered the Florida Championship Wrestling title picture early in 2008 ... Defended the Southern title on behalf of an injured Ted DiBiase Jr. earlier this year ... Declared champion when DiBiase was forced to give up the belt ... He and Steve Lewington competed in the inaugural FCW tag team title tournament, losing to Eddie Colon and Eric Perez in the final ... His finishing maneuver is the hangman's neckbreaker ... Trained by Curtis Hughes.

194 SUPER CRAZY (5'8", 215, 10, 124) His career has caught a chill since the end of *Heat* ... Super Crazy's win-loss record was respectable on WWE's now-defunct Web-based show, with victories over Ryan O'Reilly, Jay Bradley, Shawn Spears, Daivari, and Charlie Haas ... Formed a short-lived team with Jim Duggan ... Seems fully recovered from the torn MCL he suffered last year ... Sent from Raw to ECW in the 2008 supplemental draft ... Perhaps the former ECW TV champion will have better luck there ... Master of the moonsault.

195 CONSEQUENCES CREED (5'9", 202, 3, NL) Most fans saw Creed for the first time when he substituted for A-Train "Pacman" Jones at last year's Bound for Glory ... His wrestling persona was inspired by Apollo Creed of *Rocky* fame ... Defeated Jimmy Rave in his *Impact* debut, thereby qualifying for the "Xscape" match at Lockdown ... Eliminated by Curry Man in that match ... The red, white, and blue-adorned wrestler has already fallen into the X division shuffle ... His finisher is the Creed-DT, a hammerlock legsweep DDT.

196 RORY McALLISTER (6'2", 230, 8, 240) He and in-ring cousin Robbie McAllister comprise The Highlanders ... Frustrated with their career standstill on Raw, Rory and Robbie turned heel, feuding with Brian Kendrick and Paul London as well as Jim Duggan and Super Crazy ... A torn pectoral muscle has kept Rory on the sidelines ... Trained by Waldo Von Erich ... Became a proud papa on February 4 ... His signature maneuver is an inverted slingshot suplex.

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197 **D.H. SMITH** (6'5", 251, 8, 272)

Formerly known as Harry Smith ... A member of The New Generation Hart Foundation in Florida Championship Wrestling until the group disbanded in late-2007 ... Defeated Carlito in a Raw dark match on October 15 and again in his Raw television debut a week later ... Lost the Southern title to Afa Jr. in a bizarre decision ... Smith couldn't answer the referee's 10-count because he was in England on a WWE tour! ... Suspended for 30 days on November 2 due to a Wellness Policy violation ... Sent from Raw to Smackdown as part of the 2008 supple-

mental draft ... Often uses the running powerslam made famous by his father, Davey Boy Smith.

198 **ROBBIE McALLISTER** (6', 240, 8, 234)

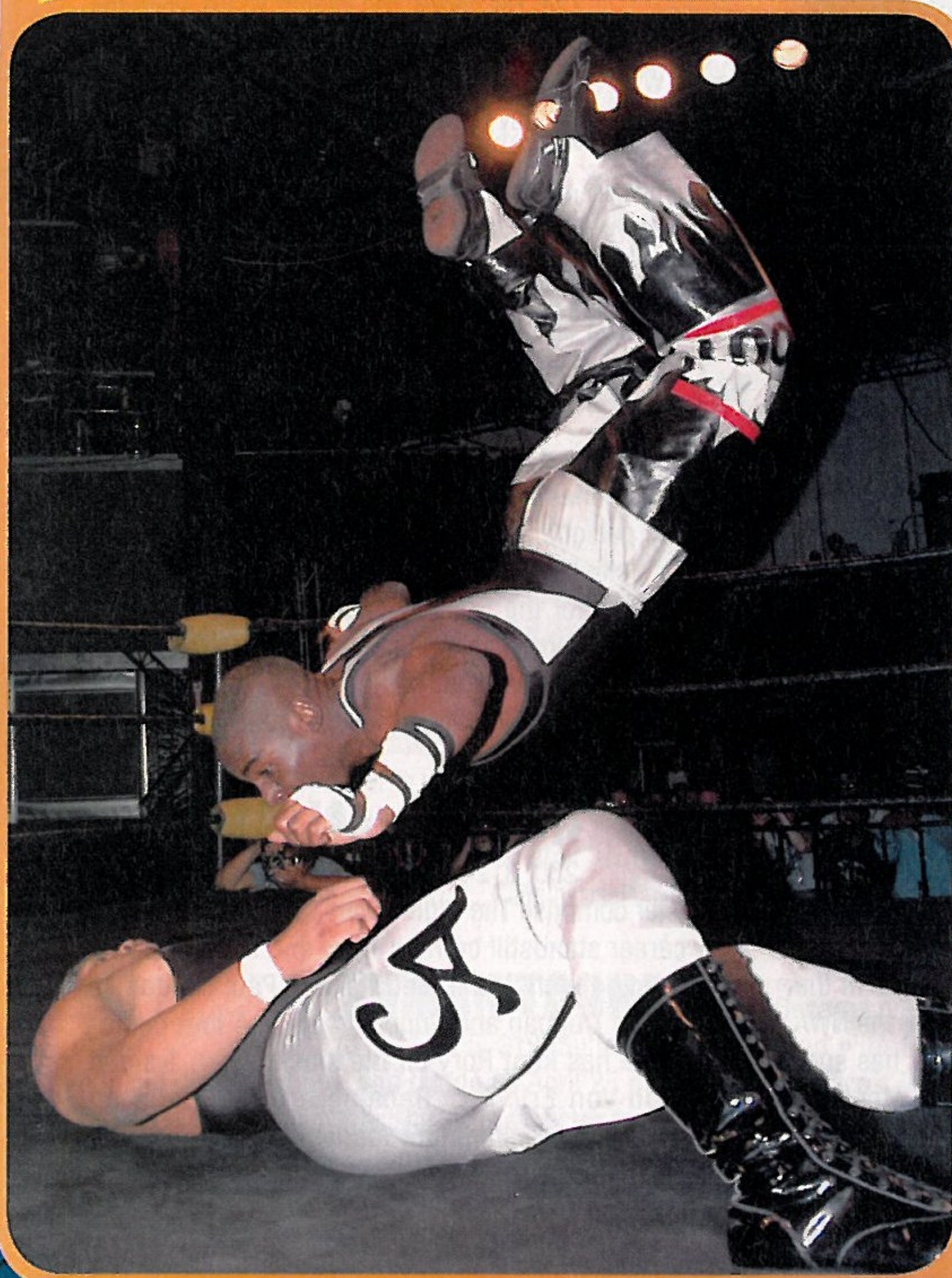
Angered WWE officials by appearing at a TNA *Impact* taping on WrestleMania weekend ... Allowed to return to WWE, but has lost virtually every match since ... Lost to Ron Killings in a dark match on June 2 ... Uses a double-underhook piledriver ... He and partner Rory McAllister went on quite a losing streak in 2007-08, despite a heel turn ... Billed from Oban, Scotland ... Trained by Waldo Von Erich at the Von Erich/Hart Brothers School of Wrestling.

← 199 **RUCKUS** (5'8", 235, 9, 357)

Made his long-awaited Ring of Honor debut on August 25 of last year ... Immediately found his niche as a member of The Vulture Squad, alongside Jack Evans and Jigsaw ... Continued to defend the Combat Zone Wrestling heavyweight title ... Ruckus and Evans scored a big win over The Briscoe Brothers on April 11 ... His most famous maneuver is a sitout suplex slam ... Rose to prominence as the leader of Blackout in CZW ... Won the 2006 "Shane Shamrock Memorial Cup" in Maryland Championship Wrestling.

200 **PAC** (5'8", 178, 4, 183)

After failing to gain traction in Ring of Honor, Pac turned to Pro Wrestling Guerrilla on the West Coast, where he enjoyed more success ... Defeated Jack Evans and Claudio Castagnoli, respectively, in the first two rounds of PWG's "Battle Of Los Angeles" tournament last fall ... Fell to CIMA in the third round ... Defeated Dragon Kid for the WXW lightweight title ... Has spent most of 2008 in his native England ... Proficient in all variations of the shooting star press, 450 splash, and 630 senton.



201 **KATSUHIKO NAKAJIMA** (5'9", 209, 4, 181)

Now 20 years old, this young phenom has come a long way since debuting for World Japan at just 15 years old in 2004 ... Follows his mentor Kensuke Sasaki around Japan, experiencing many styles ... Dropped the AJPW junior heavyweight championship to Silver King in March, but bounced back by winning a tag tournament with Ryuji Hijikata ... Has already held four titles and looks destined to be a future great of Japanese wrestling.

202 **JIGSAW** (6'1", 172, 5, 325)

Enjoyed a breakthrough year as a member of The Vulture Squad with Jack Evans and Ruckus in Ring of Honor ... Has been far more successful in tag team action than singles competition thus far ... This masked star's finisher is the Jig 'n' tonic ... Got his start in CHIKARA ... Trained by Mike Quackenbush.

203 **SCOTT LOST** (5'9", 190, 7, 304)

Considered one of the founding fathers of Southern California's Pro Wrestling Guerrilla ... Suffered a surprisingly early loss to Shingo in the first round of 2007's "Battle Of Los Angeles" tournament ... Reunited with Joey Ryan for tag team competition in late-2007 ... The sharpshooter is one of his signature holds ... Competed in the 2006 ECWA "Super 8" tournament.

204 **ROB ECKOS** (5'10", 195, 8, 388)

Has tried to make peace with younger brother, Dan Eckos, after their simmering sibling rivalry came

to a boil last year ... He and Billy Bax comprised The Valedictorians, one of the best teams in East Coast Wrestling Association history ... Handed his partner an embarrassing defeat at the 2007 "Super 8" ... Lost to Sonjay Dutt in the second round ... Beaten by Kofi Kingston on the January 29 edition of ECW on Sci Fi ... His finisher is the superkick.

205 **RICKY REYES** (5'9", 192, 9, 192)

Embarked on a singles career on indy circuit after splitting with Havana Pit Bulls partner Rocky Romero last year ... Has been most successful in the Pittsburgh-based International Wrestling Cartel, where he has feuded with old Ring of Honor rival Davey Richards ... Uses a variation of the brainbuster as his finishing maneuver ... Held the Ring of Honor, Ultimate Pro Wrestling, and Empire Wrestling Federation tag titles with Romero.

206 **BILLY BAX** (5'10", 205, 9, NL)

Still tries to ignore chants of "Opie, Opie!" from fans in the East Coast Wrestling Association ... He and Rob Eckos comprised The Valedictorians ... Has also competed in Massachusetts-based Chaotic Wrestling ... A native of Hamburg, Pennsylvania ... Has incorporated more mat-based moves into his repertoire, including a variety of takedowns.

↻ 207 **TIGER MASK IV** (5'8", 192, 13, 69)

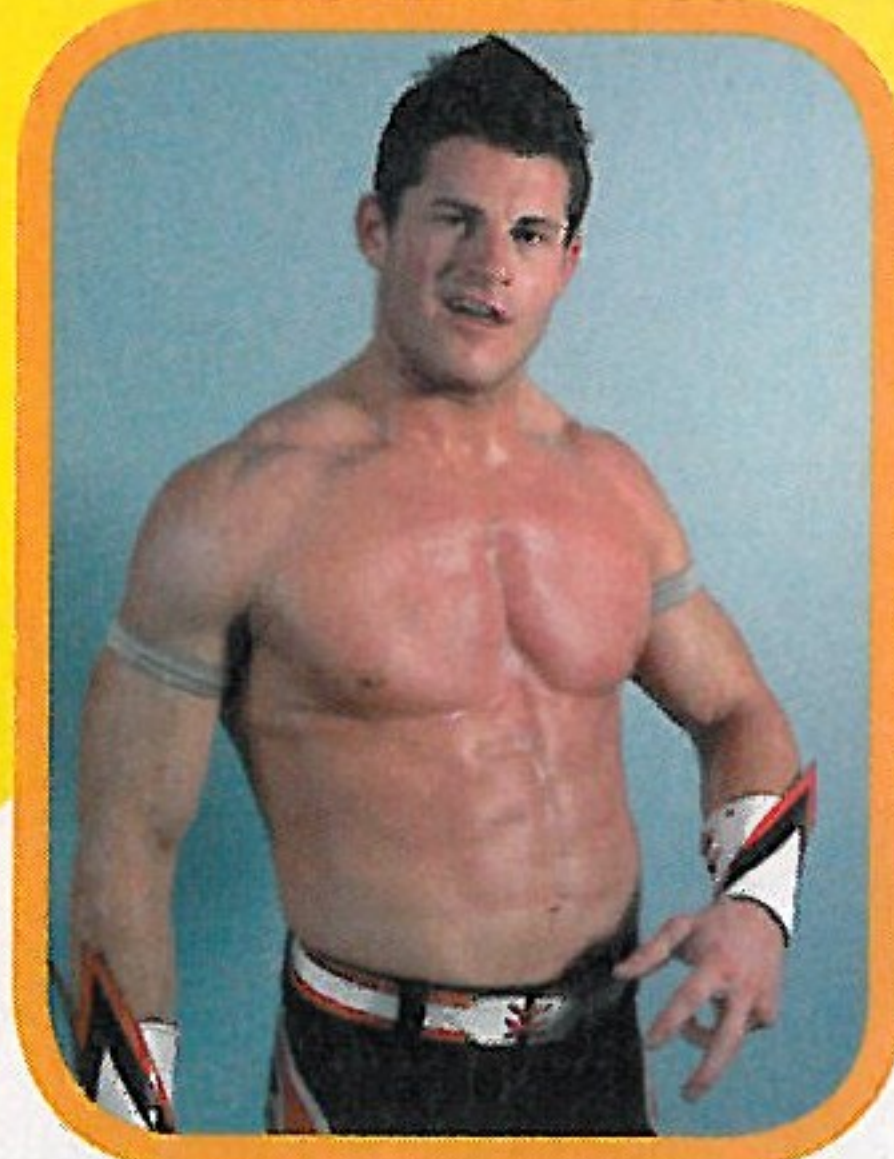
Remains an integral part of New Japan's junior division ... Returned to his old home Michinoku Pro last August to compete in the Fukumen World League, and won it by defeating Mexico's Atlantis in the final ... Still trying to find the same form that let him conquer NJPW's junior division from 2003 to 2006, having not held the IWGP junior heavyweight championship for over two years now.

208 **MATT CROSS** (5'7", 181, 7, 201)

Formerly a member of The Resilience with Erick Stevens ... Gained valuable experience in Ring of Honor, although he didn't score many victories ... Was vanquished from ROH for 60 days due to a pre-match stipulation when he was pinned during a bout pitting him and Stevens against Davey Richards and Rocky Romero ... Now based in Cleveland All-Pro Wrestling ... Has toured Europe for NWE and Japan for NOAH ... A master of the shooting star press.

197 TO 208

pwi500



209 EL SAGRADO (5'10", 190, 16, 233) The wrestler of the gold and silver cross competes in CMLL ... His religious gimmick has been heavily criticized, due to similarities with Mistico's gimmick ... Captured the Mexican national trios title with La Sombra and Volador Jr. last summer, defeating Perros del Mal ... Since winning the belts, Sagrado's team has become very strong and promising ... Usually involved in mid-card matches ... Has managed to score some impressive victories, mainly in trios ... Frequently pins his opponents with a beautiful double jump moonsault.

210 STEVIE RICHARDS (6'2", 227, 16, 266) His success in his feud with Kevin Thorn was stopped cold when he had to go on hiatus to have five throat surgeries to restore his voice ... Scored a series of respectable victories upon his return in February, defeating Rory Fox, James Curtis, and Mike Knox in consecutive weeks ... His momentum ended when he lost to Shelton Benjamin ... Originator of the Stevie-kick (superkick) and Stevie-T (DDT) ... A 22-time WWF hardcore champion.

211 TATSUMI FUJINAMI (6', 231, 37, 221) One of Japan's living legends, "The Dragon" has been wrestling for close to four decades now ... After his pupil Osamu Nishimura split from him late last year, Fujinami renamed his Muga World promotion Dradition ... Reunited with his old home New Japan this year and occasionally appears there while trading talent from his promotion ... Creator of the dragon suplex and dragon sleeper.

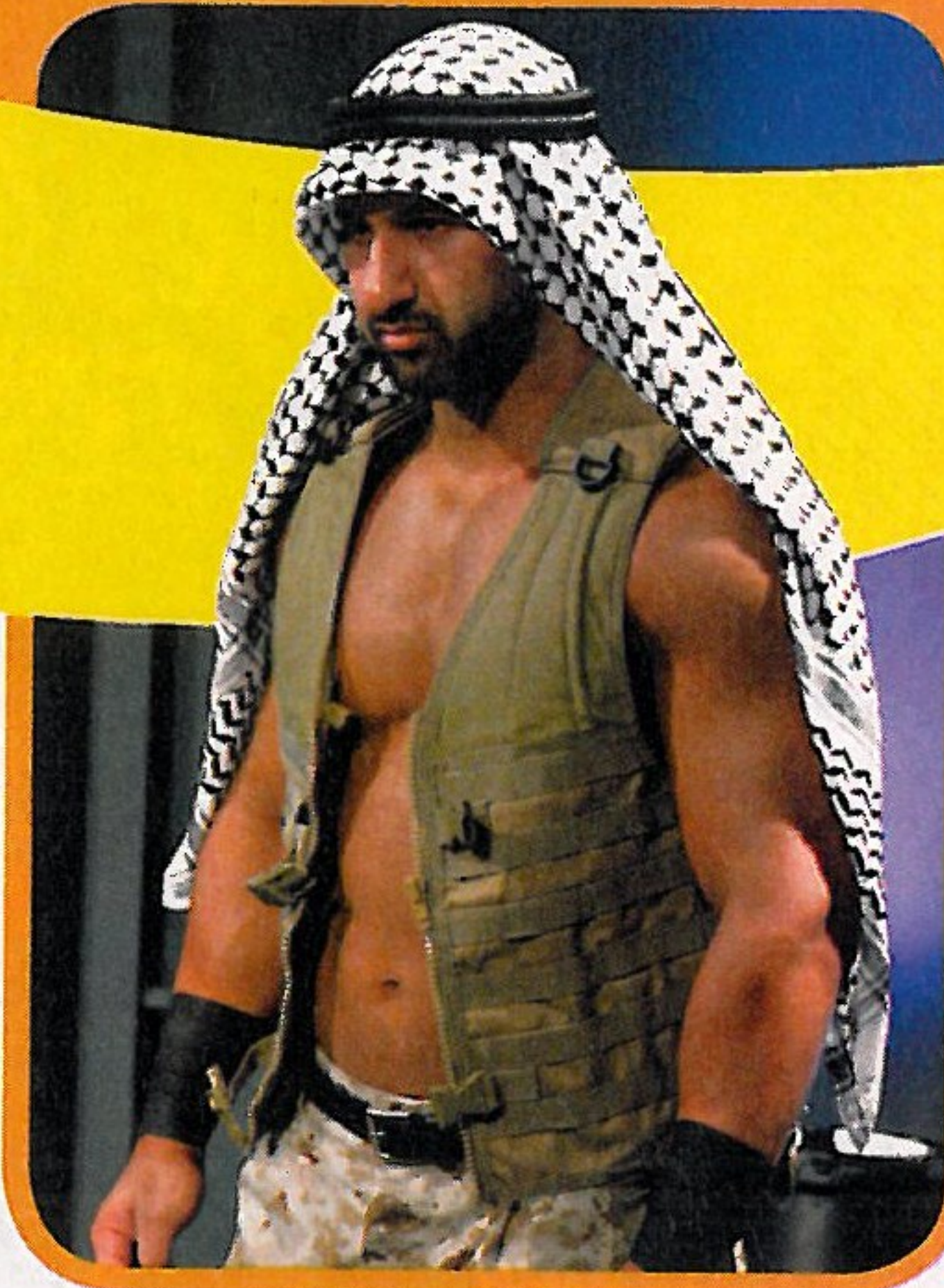
212 L.A. PARK (6', 230, 26, 68) The tireless veteran continues to deliver strong performances ... Works as an independent, occasionally wrestling for CMLL ... The "Calaca" shaved the head of Mascara Ano 2000 in November ... Two weeks later shaved the head of the veteran Pierroth ... Saved his mask in a high-profile 16-man roulette match in December ... In the same month, competed in an eight-man cage match, and shaved the head of Silver King ... Was involved in a feud with Dr. Wagner Jr., but nothing came of it ... Finishes his opponents with a spectacular corkscrew bodyblock.

213 RIKISHI (6', 400, 23, NL) Former WWE superstar is a globetrotter these days, appearing in various promotions across the world ... Has helped Italy's NWE promotion grow in recent years by bringing in big-name American talent ... Was signed by the legendary Antonio Inoki to appear in Japan's IGF promotion this April, where he pinned Orlando Jordan ... Is a sponsor of the X-treme Gladiator energy drink ... Often uses the name Kishi for legal reasons but appeared as RIKI-SHI in Japan.

214 RYUSUKE TAGUCHI (5'11", 201, 6, 287) The young "Funky Weapon" is considered the future leader of New Japan's junior division, expected to follow in the footsteps of Liger, Kanemoto, Otani, and others who took it to great heights ... 2007 was his best year to date, as he captured the IWGP junior heavyweight championship and reigned for five months with wins over Tiger Mask, Azteca, Minoru, and Kanemoto ... Calls his finisher the *dodon*.

215 EVAN BOURNE (5'10", 195, 7, 128) The former Matt Sydal is trying to find a new identity in ECW after successful runs in ROH and Japan, as well as the short-lived Wrestling Society X ... Signed a WWE developmental deal, starting out with Ohio Valley Wrestling and moving to Florida Championship Wrestling when WWE made FCW its exclusive developmental territory ... Made his WWE debut in late-spring, under the ECW banner ... His combined martial arts, gymnastic, and wrestling training are evident in his high-impact style.

216 JAY BRADLEY (6'4", 248, 9, 138) Bradley was one of the WWE's hottest developmental prospects, but his momentum has slowed a bit since WWE severed its ties with OVW ... He has worked WWE Raw house shows in preliminary matches as well as dark matches for Smackdown ... Remains a mainstay in FCW ... He has overcome a thyroid disorder that once threatened his career ... Chicago native uses the Second City slam as his finisher in an old-school repertoire designed to take advantage of his height and power.



220 D-LO BROWN (6'3", 278, 14, NL) The former I-C champion and four-time European champion is back in WWE after a five-year absence ... Wrestled stints in TNA, All Japan, Pro Wrestling NOAH, England, and Ireland before returning to WWE ... The 35-year-old is unlikely to make significant changes to his repertoire, which includes his Lo down frog splash, D-Lo driver reverse piledriver, and sky high spinebuster.

221 ELIX SKIPPER (6'2", 218, 8, 323) On-again, off-again career in TNA appears to be off again ... Appearances became less frequent and was finally released in the spring ... Prior to the TNA releases of Skipper and Senshi (Low-Ki), the duo reunited with Christopher Daniels to reform the Triple X Alliance ... Skipper is currently working independent dates and weighing his options, including in Japan and WWE.

222 JAKE HAGER (6'4", 282, 2, NL) Hottest current WWE developmental prospect in FCW ... As a University of Oklahoma collegiate wrestler, set a single-season record for the most pinfall victories (30) ... Won the FCW heavyweight championship against Ted DiBiase Jr. while cultivating an aura of invincibility ... Also defeated FCW Southern heavyweight champion Heath Miller to become the territory's first undisputed champion ... Tilt-a-whirl slam called the Hager-meister is his finisher.

223 CHRIS MASTERS (6'5", 270, 6, 89) "The Masterpiece" finds his career in flux after being released from WWE following a second violation of the company's Wellness Policy ... Despite a limited repertoire in the ring, at times displays hints of diversifying his abilities beyond a few basic power moves and brawling tactics ... Thus far, there appears to be minimal interest from TNA.

224 SHAWN DAIVARI (5'10", 203, 8, 227) Asked for and received his WWE release after being told he'd continue receiving minimal air time and appear mostly in preliminary and lower mid-card matches ... Debuted in TNA as the captain of Team International in the "World X Cup" tournament ... Possesses a diverse set of high-impact maneuvers ... Has gone back to using his given name of Shawn after being known simply as Daivari in WWE.

217 JOSH PROHIBITION (6', 200, 7, 378) Former minor league baseball player and backyard wrestling combatant is a top Canadian star for UWA Hardcore Wrestling ... Added another UWA light heavyweight championship to his collection, winning the first round of the annual eight-man Grand Prix tournament ... Lost the Grand Prix finals to Lionel Knight the following day, with both the light heavyweight and UWA Canadian championships on the line ... The T-bone suplex remains his finishing move of choice.

218 SHINJIRO OTANI (5'11", 236, 16, 232) The former New Japan Pro-Wrestling star remains a head figure for the ZERO1-MAX promotion as president of its parent company ... Juggles management tasks with his in-ring duties, helping Masato Tanaka lead Z1's Sword Army ... Has become caught up in his company's feud with old haunt New Japan, battling many former friends and foes ... Recently selected to compete in New Japan's upcoming G1 Climax, Japan's most prestigious singles tournament.

219 DREW MCINTYRE (6'5", 250, 7, NL) 23-year-old Scot has been in the business for seven years ... After splashing onto the U.K. wrestling scene, McIntyre was signed to a WWE developmental contract ... Appeared on international TV broadcasts of WWE *Heat* until the federation discontinued the program ... Currently working in FCW, teaming with Stu Sanders ... The duo won the FCW tag team championship ... Uses a bridging northern lights suplex as his finisher.

209 TO 224

pwi500

225 NARUKI DOI (5'8", 181, 8, 133) Star of Dragon Gate in Japan has become an international traveler ... Held the ROH tag team championship with Shingo Takagi last year ... Co-founded the World-1 faction with tag partner Masato Yoshino ... With Yoshino, has recently traveled to TNA Wrestling as Team Japan representatives in the 2008 World X Cup ... A lover of baseball, his bakatate sliding kick finisher is a sliding dropkick to the face.

226 SHEAMUS O'SHAUNESSY (6'6", 280, 6, NL) Dublin-born WWE developmental talent is plying his trade in FCW ... Feuded with Drew McIntyre in Real Quality Wrestling (RQW) ... In FCW, S.O.S. teamed with Brazilian wrestler Kafu in the Florida tag team championship tournament ... Has worked WWE dark matches and appeared on Raw as a WWE security guard ... His Celtic slam finisher is a variation of the Death Valley driver.

227 LOW-KI (5'8", 170, 10, 50) Has struggled with injuries since asking for—and receiving—his release from TNA ... Won the Pro Wrestling Guerrilla championship shortly after his TNA departure, but had to forfeit the title due to injury ... Has also missed time with New Japan for the same reason ... Since leaving TNA, dropped the Senshi name in favor of his indy moniker ... Despite injuries, still possesses his warrior's way double stomp and a devastating array of kicks and takedowns.

228 KID KASH (5'9", 202, 14, NL) The outspoken veteran took time off from the ring after his WWE release ... Since returning, has done work overseas, competing for RQW on the UK's Fight Network ... The 38-year-old has toned down some reckless aerial moves, but still has them in his arsenal ... Most recently has turned his attention to mixed martial arts ... Lost his MMA debut to Bryan Brown by decision ... Finishes off bigger opponents with his dead level variation on the DDT.

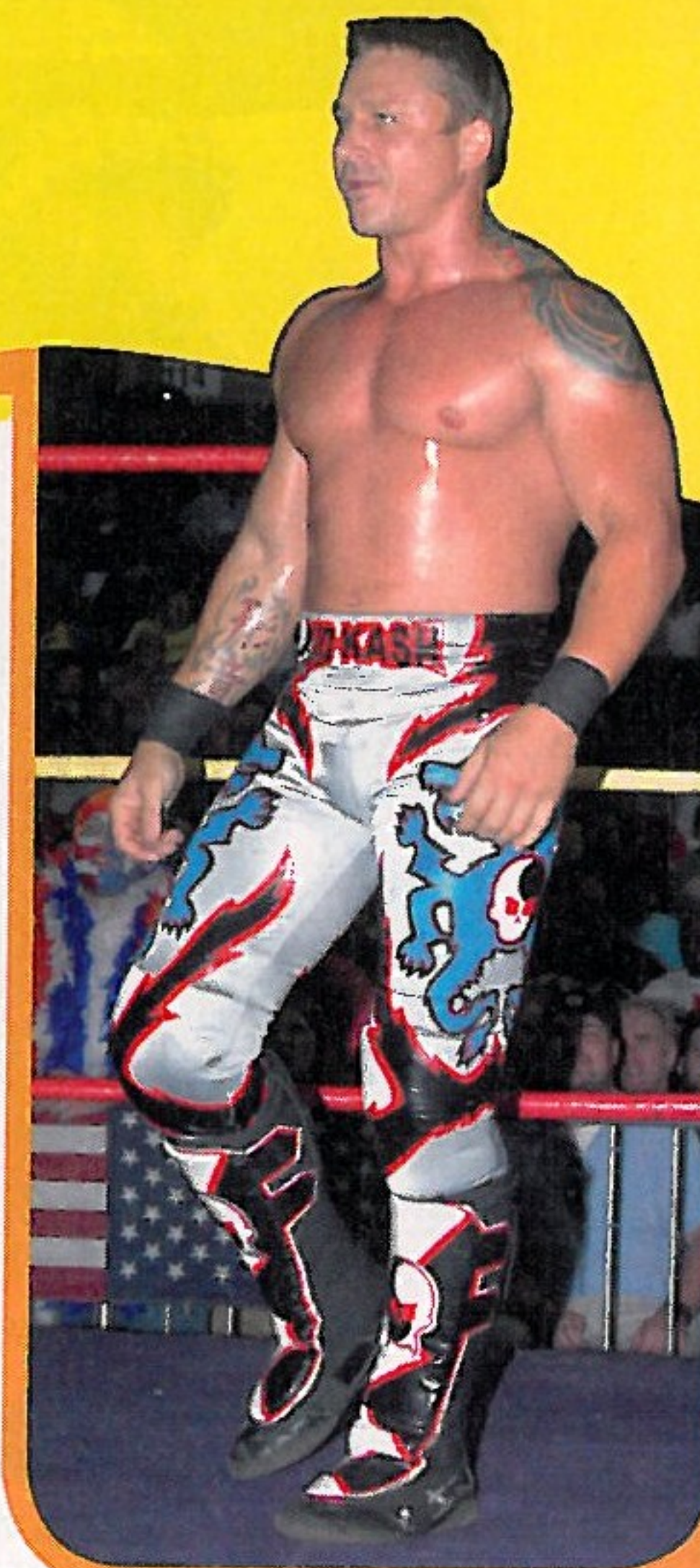
229 HIROMI HORIGUCHI (5'9", 176, 4, 408) One of Ultimo Dragon's

most enigmatic students ... Less known in his native Japan, where he rarely wrestles ... Was part of the last "Toryumon X" class along with New Japan's Kazuchika Okada ... Has spent much of his career in Mexico, Canada, and recently the United States, debuting in February for Pro Wrestling Ohio ... Recently held UWA Hardcore Wrestling's lightweight title, but lost it in February.

230 2 COLD SCORPIO (5'11", 229, 23, NL) Former ECW and WCW sensation has remained popular in Japan and Europe ... Made a once-off return to WWE in the last year as Flash Funk, his mid-1990s WWF character ... Apart from overseas work, the 42-year-old still wrestles for old friend Booker T's promotion in Texas ... In PWA, has feuded with student Gustavo Mendoza ... His 450-degree Scorpio splash raised the bar for aerial finishing moves in the 1990s.

231 ACE STEEL (5'9", 211, 17, 324) A casualty of WWE's divorce from OVW ... Prior to his release, appeared on Smackdown, losing to Chuck Palumbo ... Remains close with C.M. Punk, whom he helped train ... Has used a variety of finishing moves in his career, including a diving DDT he calls the Steel spike and the spinal shock neckbreaker.

232 ADAM FLASH (5'11", 222, 17, 297) The veteran is still competing in the indy scene ... Three-time National Championship Wrestling champion ... Wrestles under the Maryland Championship Wrestling banner and has also worked in Combat Zone Wrestling ... Originally trained by Maxx Thrasher ... Not to be confused with the Adam Flash who wrestles in the ICWF indy promotion ... Often uses a top-rope legdrop as his finishing move of choice.



233 KENZO SUZUKI (6'3", 250, 8, NL) The Foreign Legion's "Imperial Eagle" has put on some impressive AAA performances ... Usually teams up with Zorro and Electroshock for trios and tag team bouts ... Challenged La Parka and Octagon for the Mexican national tag team title, but failed to capture the prestigious belts ... Inflicted a shoulder injury on La Parka with a hard shoulder breaker ... Feuded with the Hell Brothers and Mesias' La Secta ... Knocks his opponents out with a powerful kneedrop.

234 HIROYOSHI TENZAN (6', 254, 17, 81) Returned to New Japan after a lengthy injury in February to feud with GBH, the faction he created and was kicked out of ... Formed a hugely popular tag team with Takashi Iizuka until Iizuka betrayed him to join GBH ... Currently embroiled in a bloody feud with Iizuka that is raging across Japan ... As a four-time IWGP heavyweight champion, will soon look to recapture the title he last held in 2005.

235 RICKY VEGA (6'1", 260, 7, NL) Formerly Machete in TNA ... Working the independent scene in the U.S. and appearing in Puerto Rico under the International Wrestling Association banner ... Challenged Mike Quackenbush for the NWA light heavyweight championship at the NWA 60th Anniversary card ... Came up short, tapping out at the 8:31 mark ... Originally trained by Johnny Rodz, Marty Jannetty, and Ted DiBiase ... Possesses a high-impact diving headbutt and diving bulldog.

236 TEDDY HART (6'1", 195, 10, 320) Volatile, but immensely talented member of Canada's most famous wrestling family was slated to join WWE as a member of a new Hart Foundation, but was

released ahead of his debut ... Has a reputation for being defiant to management ... When motivated, can deliver phenomenal performances ... Possesses an extensive array of aerial moves, suplexes, and takedowns ... His open Hart surgery corkscrew splash is on the most spectacular and risky finishers in the business.

237 MINORU FUJITA (5'11", 190, 11, 292) Fiery junior heavyweight makes his home in Japan's ZERO1-MAX promotion as part of Takao Omori's Axe Army ... An 11-year veteran at only 30 ... Has been a regular for Big Japan, Michinoku Pro, New Japan, IWA in Puerto Rico, and several U.S. indies ... Reconciled with his former teacher Great Sasuke this April, only to betray him in their first tag match together.

238 LA MASCARA (5'9", 187, 8, 161) Son of Brazo de Oro earned himself a spot in upper-mid-card matches, always delivering fantastic performances ... Feuding with Sangre Azteca in a series of intense trios and singles matches ... Challenged Sangre for the Mexican national welterweight title, but failed to capture the belt ... Usually teams with Valiente and Mascara Purpura ... Joined the recently created Angeles del Ring stable ... Won the CMLL trios title with Hector Garza and Hijo del Fantasma ... A master of the la campana submission move.

239 PUMA (5'9", 172, 8, NL) New Japan Pro-Wrestling's American equivalent to Tiger Mask ... Appeared in New Japan in 2005, but stayed for just one tour before returning to the States ... Has had several stints for TNA, most recently at the Victory Road 2007 PPV ... Is a regular for Pro Wrestling Guerrilla out of Southern California ... Master of the figure-four deathlock, a leglock cloverleaf hold.

240 HEAVY METAL (5'7", 181, 19, 163) Youngest of the Casas dynasty ... Teams with his brothers, Negro Casas and Felino ... Barely used by CMLL in 2007, but regained popularity in 2008 due to his intense feud with Toscano ... Bad blood between the two ended in a triple-threat hair match, which also involved Perro Aguayo Jr. ... Metal shaved the head of Toscano ... Weeks later, lost his hair in a 10-man cage match at the hands of Texano Jr. ... Applies the family move la casita to pin his opponents.

225 TO 240

pwi500

241 T.J. WILSON (5'9", 195, 13, NL)

WWE developmental wrestler has an impressive pedigree ... Got his start at Stu Hart's Dungeon and received much early training from Davey Boy Smith ... At age 16, wrestled at a WWF show in Calgary ... Wrestled as part of FCW's Next Generation Hart Foundation ... Won the Southern heavyweight championship from Afa Jr. ... Uses a rolling fireman's carry slam from the second turnbuckle.

242 TARU (6'1", 220, 12, NL)

Has tormented All Japan Pro Wrestling ever since first appearing in January 2005 ... Founded the infamous Voodoo Murders faction in AJPW and has managed to recruit the likes of Satoshi Kojima, Suwama, and D-Lo Brown into the ranks ... Won the AJPW tag team championship with Kojima last August before dropping it to Keiji Muto and Joe Doering in January ... Master of the TARU driller, a spinning reverse piledriver.

243 MAHONEY (6'2", 251, 15, 264)

The longtime ECW cult favorite was released from his WWE contract earlier this year ... The indy veteran is back on the independent scene, where crowds still respond to his "Chair Swinging Freak" persona ... Has worked behind-the-scenes and on-camera on the *Who Wants To Be A Superhero?* reality show on Sci Fi ... Still favors the Nutcracker Suite finisher.

244 DANNY DORING (5'11", 212, 9, 205)

Former original ECW wrestler has rebounded from a failed stint in ECW ... Debuted in Force One by winning a four-way elimination match with Mike Reed, Nicky Benz, and Rockin' Rebel ... Defeated Breaker Morant to win the Force One Iron League heavyweight championship ... Currently feuding with Danny "Inferno" Giomondo ... Can end matches quickly with his double-arm DDT finisher ... Also possesses a nicely executed German suplex.

245 COLT CABANA (6'1", 235, 9, 108)

Moved to Tampa to wrestle for Florida Championship Wrestling when WWE changed its development base from OWW to FCW ... Still best known for his time in Ring of Honor ... When Ace Steel first appeared in WWE, he used the ring name Scott Colton (Cabana's given name)



in joking tribute to protégé Cabana ... Fans often call for Cabana to break out his Colt .45 finisher.

246 CHRIS CAGE (5'11", 215, 7, NL)

Former WWE developmental wrestler remained with Ohio Valley Wrestling after WWE moved its development roster to FCW ... Appeared in Ring of Honor under the name Chris Banks ... Was originally trained by Danny Davis and Nick Dinsmore ... Majored in Art at Youngstown State University before training for a wrestling career ... Uses the Cage drop—a fireman's carry turned into a gutbuster—as his finisher.

247 JOSH DANIELS (5'8", 210, 6, 311)

Mainstay on the East Coast independent circuit remains the Maryland Championship Wrestling titlist as of press time ... Gained momentum from his victory at the "Shamrock Cup" last year ... Despite giving a size advantage to many of his opponents—even many cruiserweights—he never backs down in the ring ... Unleashes several variations of traditional and aerial suplexes ... Daniels generates explosive height on the takeoff of his swan-dive diving headbutt.

248 KUDO (5'8", 165, 7, 301)

Wrestles for Japan's small but popular DDT (Dramatic Dream Team) promotion ... Likes to travel and is known among U.S. fans from his occasional trips to the PWG and CHIKARA organizations ... Utilizes a lethal range of kicks including a buzzsaw kick, spin kick, swan-dive dropkick, and Texas condor kick ... Finishes matches with a diving double kneedrop, connecting with two knees instead of one.

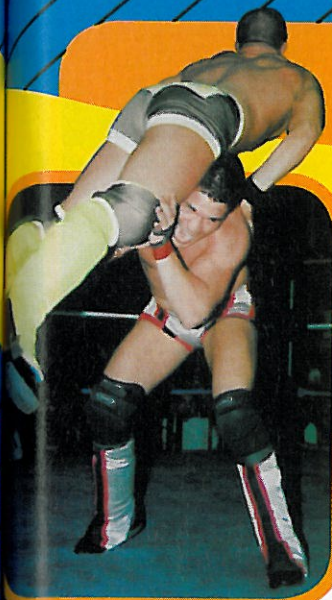


Photo by Tim Walker

249 LA PARKA (6', 235, 21, 43)

Injuries have not stopped the kids' favorite star from competing ... Suffered a car accident that left his shoulder severely damaged ... Returned with a shoulder protector

to compete in the AAA title tournament ... Teamed with Cibernetico for tag team bouts against Mesias and his Secta stable ... Defended the Mexican national tag team title with Octagon against the team of Kenzo Suzuki and Electroshock ... Shoulder was re-injured with a shoulder breaker from Suzuki and a chair legdrop from Sabu ... Returned to the sidelines for several months before returning in the spring ... Signature move is the elbowdrop neckbreaker.

250 SABU (6', 220, 23, 58)

The "homicidal, suicidal, genocidal" high-flyer has been working on the independent circuit as well as AAA in Mexico since his release from WWE ... Has missed several months of action with a serious back injury, including scheduled appearances for CWA, Xtreme Pro Wrestling, IWA: MS, and PCW ... Ran in and brawled with Terry Funk when Funk served as special referee at an Xtreme Pro Wrestling's "Cold Day In Hell" card ... Mounting injuries have slowed down Sabu's ringwork, but not his reckless style.

251 TAKESHI RIKIO (6'3", 300, 8, NL)

Pro Wrestling NOAH's former sumo star finally returned from a extended injury absence this February ... Reformed his team with Jun Akiyama, but the two were unable to recapture the GHC tag team championship in a tournament after a final-day loss to Kensuke Sasaki and Katsuhiko Nakajima ... Still chasing a second reign as GHC heavyweight champion ... Dunks opponents with the muso to end matches.

252 CHAD COLLYER (5'10", 218, 11, NL)

The technical maestro has been competing in some promotions as The Metal Master ... Previously known as Chad Malenko in New Japan USA for his striking resemblance—both in looks and style—to the man who was number one in the 1997 "500" ... Won NWA Indiana State

title in August 2007 ... Was a triple crown champion in the Heartland Wrestling Association, winning the heavyweight, cruiserweight, and TV titles ... Suplex master uses the Texas cloverleaf as a tribute to Malenko.

253 JASON BLADE (5'11", 192, 4, 414)

Chaotic Wrestling standout has had some success in Ring of Honor this year ... Won the Full Impact Pro tag team title with Kenny King, defeating The Briscoe Brothers ... Also held the Chaotic tag title twice with Kid Mikaze ... Blade is part of the YRR faction (Young, Rich, and Ready for Action) in FIP ... Managed by So Cal Val and Becky Bayless ... Calls his finishing move the switchblade ... Also frequently uses a T-bone suplex and a precision superkick.

254 OLIMPICO (5'10", 194, 16, 200)

The son of Roy Aguirre is quickly becoming one of the top rudos on the CMLL roster ... Possesses one of the most muscular bodies of the Mexican deck ... Since joining Guerreros de La Atlantida, has become more aggressive, earning the respect of the male fans and the admiration of women ... Frequently teams with Atlantis and Rey Bucanero ... Tried trios with Mascara Ano 2000 and Universo 2000, but the team didn't capture any belts ... Makes his opponents tap out to his cristo invertido.

255 MASAOKI MOCHIZUKI (5'9", 187, 14, NL)

Veteran kicker who wrestled for Genichiro Tenryu's WAR promotion in the 1990s and joined Toryumon Japan (now Dragon Gate) in 1999 ... Loves to battle wrestlers from all over Japan, regularly venturing out of Dragon Gate to promotions such as ZERO1-MAX ... Began to promote his own special shows under the Buyuden banner last year, where he unites wrestlers of all different styles from across Japan.

256 PEPPER PARKS (6', 225, 9, NL)

The man who beat The Spirit Squad to the punch by claiming to be wrestling's first male cheerleader way back in 2001 is having new success as the "Patrick Swayze Of Professional Wrestling" ... Became the NWA National heavyweight champion in October 2007 with a win over Kory Williams ... Lost that belt in April 2008 ... Also won the NWA-Empire heavyweight title and the PWA Niagara championship, and feuded with the likes of Jonny Puma, Derek Wydle, and Brodie Lee ... Finisher is the Pepper shaker neckbreaker.

241 TO 256

pwi500



Photo by Joe Zanolle

257 DAMIÁN 666 (5'9", 218, 23, 158)

The "Apocalypse Beast" is considered one of the true pioneers of hardcore wrestling in Mexico ... Has become a ruthless competitor with Perros del Mal ... Lost the Mexican national trios title during the summer ... After his long-time partner Halloween abandoned CMLL, found a new partnership with Mr. Aguila and Perro Aguayo Jr. ... Saved his hair in a 10-man cage match, where he was the strong favorite to lose ... Finishes his opponents with a move called la valaguesa.

➔ 258 MATT LOGAN (6', 215, 6, NL)

One-third of the East Coast Wrestling Association's Logan Brothers, Matt scored the biggest win of his career to date with an upset over Rob Conway in the 2007 "Super 8" Tournament ... High-flyer calls his high-cross bodypress the Flight of the Concord ... Tag team specialist has won tag titles throughout the Northeast, as well as the NEWA TV title, the AWE cruiserweight title, and the NGW cruiserweight title ... Currently holds the ECWA tag title with brother Bryan.

259 EPHESTO (5'9", 189, 26, 152)

The sadistic and cruel competitor is proving himself to be a high-quality heel ... After suffering many transformations, seems to have found his best persona yet ... As a member of the Triad of Terror alongside Averno and Mephisto, Ephesto scored some important wins against some of CMLL's best teams ... Began teaming with different heels, when Averno and Mephisto left the Triad of Terror to join the Perros del Mal ... Since the split, Ephesto hasn't found a new team ... Usually ends his matches with a shoulder breaker.

260 CHRISTIAN YORK (5'11", 215, 12, 385)

The well-traveled veteran defeated his former tag team partner, Joey Matthews, to win the Maryland Championship Wrestling heavyweight title in December 2007 ... Also teamed with Matthews in a tag match against The Motor City Machine Guns in All American Wrestling ... York is a two-time winner of the "Shane Shamrock Memorial Cup" ... Has competed in numerous WWE dark matches but has never received that elusive contract ... Finishers are the frog splash and the rebel yelp kneedrop.

261 MIKE MONDO (5'7", 229, 6, 236)

"The Professional," also known as Mighty Mikey, had a series of wins in OVW last summer against the likes of Armando Estrada, Prodigy, and Justin "The Ox" LaRoche ... With Florida Championship Wrestling, he defeated Chris Gray before losing tag team matches against Gray and Hade Vansen and the New Generation Hart Foundation ... As Mighty Mikey, he teamed with Matt O'Neal, defeating Nic Nemeth and Big Rob in January ... Was released from his WWE developmental contract in June.

➔ 262 ROB CONWAY (6'2", 230, 11, 275)

"The Con Man" has gotten back to his roots in Ohio Valley Wrestling after being released from WWE last May ... Was considered a favorite in the 2007 "Super 8" tournament, but suffered an upset loss in the first round to Matt Logan ... Currently one-half of the OVW Southern tag team champions with Pat Buck ... Known for his ego trip whiplash, and one of the hardest right hands in wrestling.

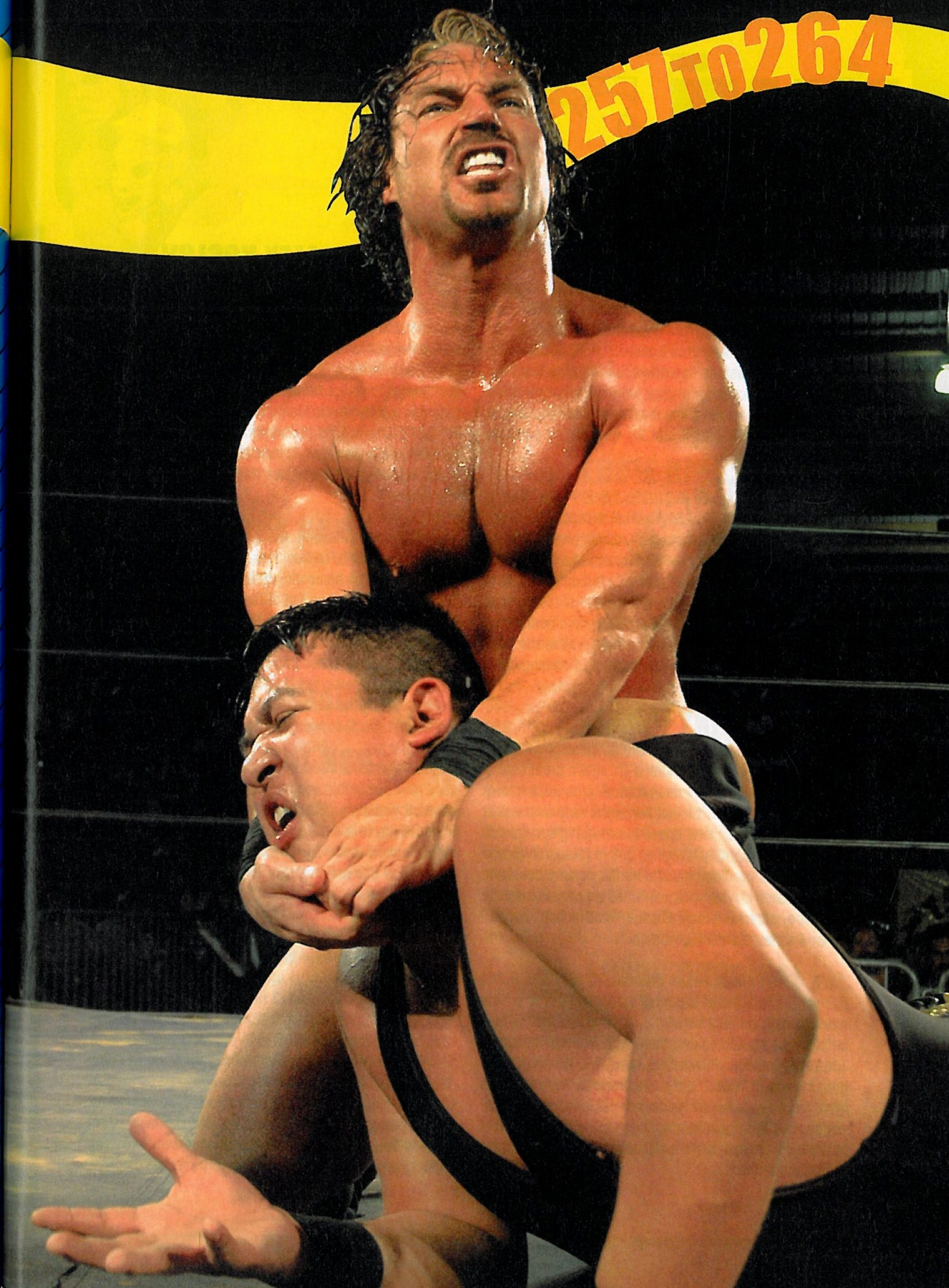
263 SHOCKER (5'8", 191, 16, 129)

Son of Ruben "Pato" Soria continues to call himself "1,000 Percent Handsome" ... A favorite among CMLL's female fans ... The short-lived tag team with Lizmark Jr. shaved the heads of Black Warrior and Rey Bucanero ... Continues to wrestle mid-card and upper-card matches with some of his strongest performances ... Has been teaming with the likes of Mistico and Marco Corleone for trios matches ... Executes a painful submission maneuver called la reinera.

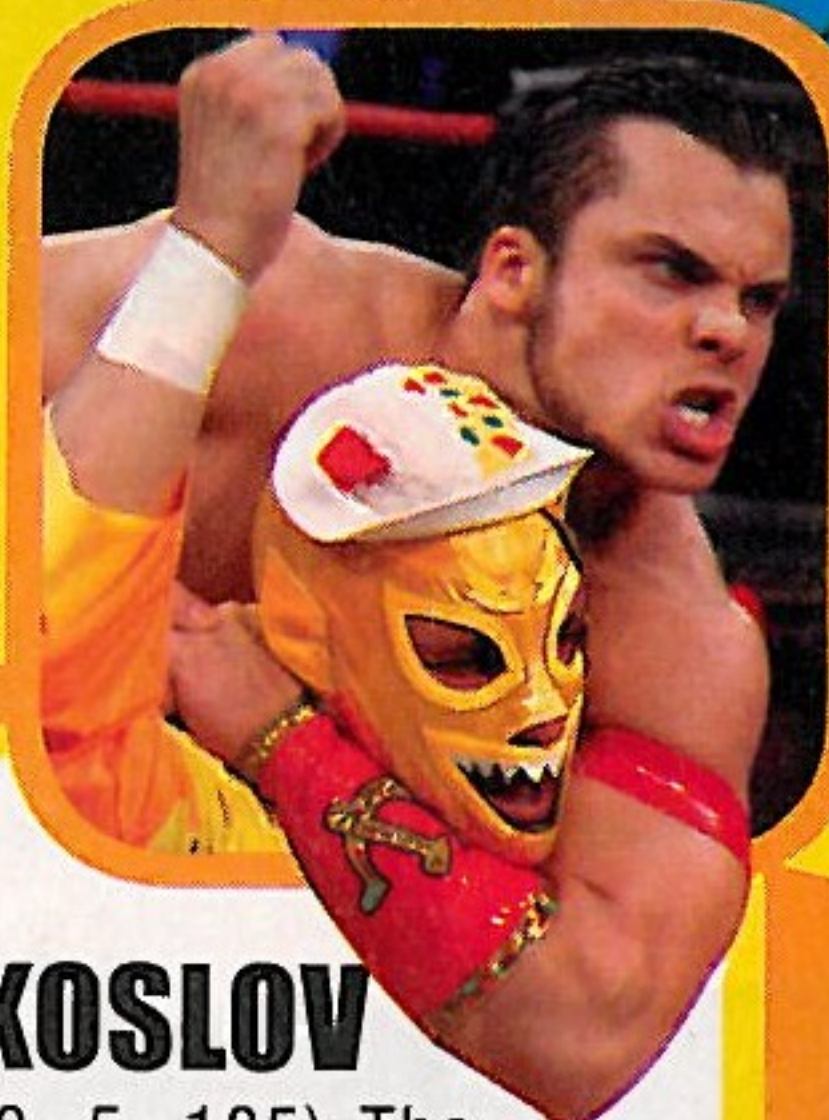
264 NUNZIO (5'9", 201, 17, 217)

Lost a series of matches in the summer, including to John Morrison, The Miz, Matt Striker, and Elijah Burke ... Enjoyed dressing up as Dracula for a Halloween match against Tommy Dreamer and as a Christmas elf against Kenny Dykstra (Nunzio lost both matches) ... Pound-for-pound, one of the best grapplers in the sport, but he rarely faces people in his weight class ... Assisted Batista and his underdogs at Smackdown in June, helping Batista to get an opportunity to wrestle Edge for the Smackdown World title ... Finishing moves are the Sicilian crab and the arrive-derci (single arm DDT).

257 TO 264



pwi500



265 XAVIER (5'11", 215, 7, NL) The former Ring of Honor heavyweight champion is still active on the Northeast independent circuit ... Won the Northeast Wrestling heavyweight title in December 2006 in a three-way match against A.J. Styles and Jay Lethal ... Successfully defended that title against both Samoa Joe and Joey Mercury, which is a heck of an accomplishment ... Finishing moves are the 450 degrees of fear (flying 450 splash) and the kiss your X goodbye (cannonball pancake).

266 VITO (6'2", 250, 18, 277) The "Toughest Man Ever To Wear A Dress" has been keeping busy on the indy circuit since being released from WWE last May ... Defeated El Bacano to win the IWA Intercontinental title in Puerto Rico ... In September, took a break from wrestling to mourn the death of his ex-wife, Kathy Lo Grasso ... Returned in October and beat Jason Styles for the Big Time Wrestling title ... Won the UXW U.S. title with a win over Vordell Walker ... Finishing move is the Luca Brazzi (butterfly DDT).

267 KENNY DYKSTRA (6'1", 230, 7, 123) The former Spirit Squad member has all but vanished in recent months ... Lost a great deal of momentum when he was dealt from Raw to Smackdown last summer ... Now it looks like even Victoria has lost patience with him ... Was one of the most highly regarded prospects in Ohio Valley Wrestling before joining WWE, and many insiders predict it's just a matter of time before he breaks through in a big way ... Wanted very much to be the man who retired Ric Flair, but the "Nature Boy" handed Kenny a series of one-sided losses.

268 CHRIS JOEL (5'10", 230, 6, NL) One of the most arrogant figures on the World Wrestling Council roster ... Turned against the fans and formed a rulebreaking team with Noriega known as The Young Rebels ... Considers himself to be the premier ladies' man in WWC ... He and Noriega have held the WWC tag titles on several occasions ... Was actually "kidnapped" by the rival IWA promotion but quickly returned to WWC ... Cocky heel reminiscent of Eddie Gilbert in his antics and ring style.

269 ALEX KOSLOV (5'9", 190, 5, 185) The Russian wrestler is a favorite of CMLL's female fans ... Turned to the clean side, and won numerous trios matches ... Challenged for numerous championships, including the Mexican national welterweight title and the CMLL light heavyweight belt, but has always come up short ... Forms a dangerous duo with Marco Corleone ... Competed in TNA's 2008 "World X Cup," representing Russia for Team International ... Managed to save his hair in a 10-man cage match last summer ... Finishes his matches with a Russian frog elbow.

270 GRAN AKUMA (5'10", 199, 5, 294) The loss of his mask hasn't softened Gran Akuma one bit as he continues to make life miserable for CHIKARA's technicos ... Part of Team F.I.S.T. with Icarus and Chuck Taylor ... The trios team defeated Da Soul Touchaz and Sweet 'n' Sour Inc., but fell to The Colony in the "King Of Trios" tourney ... Has competed throughout Europe, Mexico, and all over the United States, including ROH and CZW ... Known for his high-speed yoshi tonic sunset flip variation and has recently added an effective moonsault press to his repertoire.

271 RON ZOMBIE (6'3", 242, 13, NL) Zombie is a hardcore specialist on the independent wrestling circuit ... Defeated the Puerto Rican Hound Dogg in a hardcore match and won a three-way match against Justin Credible and Slyck Wagner Brown to gain a DPW title match against Big Jim Sullivan ... Justin Credible's interference cost Zombie the ensuing match with Sullivan ... Originally trained by Killer Kowalski ... Also a musician, playing guitar for metal band Nasty Disaster and bass for a Metallica cover band.

272 ICARUS (5'10", 174, 6, 303) The most hated rudo in CHIKARA is the kingpin of Team F.I.S.T. with Gran Akuma and new recruit Chuck Taylor ... Extensively feuded with The Colony this year ... He and Gran Akuma were the longest reigning "*campeon de parejas*" in CHIKARA history, holding that championship for almost 12 months before losing it to Hallowicked and Delirious ... Pet move is the pedigree ... Has also been known to use an impressive split-leg moonsault and a very effective dropkick.

273 DEREK FRAZIER (5'10", 195, 7, 435) The former Maryland Championship Wrestling cruiserweight champion recently returned from knee surgery ... Prior to the injury, had a six-month feud with Josh Daniels, who eventually beat Frazier for the cruiserweight title ... Won both the junior heavyweight and tag team (with Niles Young) titles in Combat Zone Wrestling ... Trained by Ruckus ... Known for his reckless, high-impact style ... Boasts a deadly shining wizard and a formidable vertebreaker ... Primary finisher is called the impact driver.

274 NORIEGA (5'10", 220, 5, NL) One of the top heels in Carlos Colon's WWC promotion in Puerto Rico ... A member of the Juventud Rebelde faction ... Has pledged to end the Colon wrestling dynasty ... Has supported El Condor in his feud with Carlos, Eddie, and Carlito Colon, attacking the senior Colon at WWC "Summer Madness" to allow El Condor to work over Eddie.

275 LINCE DORADO (5'6", 167, 2, 395) The "Golden Lynx" of Juarez, Mexico, has enjoyed a breakout year in CHIKARA ... Teamed with his mentor El Pantera and Incognito to win CHIKARA's prestigious "King Of Trios" tournament this year ... Teamed with lucha libre legend Mil Mascaras in a winning match in Detroit in May ... Defeated rival Mitch Ryder in a hair-vs.-mask match ... Has an incredible array of flying moves at his disposal, including a hair-raising shooting star senton.

276 INTOCABLE (5'11", 195, 9, 92) Remains a favorite of AAA's female fans ... Shocked fans when he aligned with former nemesis Alan Stone ... Involved in the feud between the Guapos VIP and the Bellos Stone ... Teamed on several occasions with Stone and Super Calo for trios matches ... After feuding with the Guapos VIP, competed in several mid-card and upper-card matches, frequently forming trios with Alebrije and Octagon ... Ends his matches with a powerful asai DDT.

277 JUN AKIYAMA (5'8", 165, 16, 72) Star of Pro Wrestling NOAH

where he is one of the top names on cards, but hasn't held the GHC heavyweight championship for two years now ... Formed a successful title-winning tag team with Takeshi Rikio last year, cut short when Rikio was seriously injured ... Considered an under-achiever for never living up to original expectations, but is an ever-present threat ... Loves to drop opponents with his exploder suplex.

278 EDDIE KINGSTON (5'11", 228, 5, 339) The "Last Of A Dying Breed" ... One of CHIKARA's top rudos ... Has reigned as both CZW and IWA: Mid-South heavyweight champion in recent years ... Was stripped of the IWA:Mid-South title in April after failing to make a scheduled title defense ... Teamed with Joker and Ruckus as Blackout to make it all the way to the finals of the 28-team "King Of Trios" tournament in March, but Kingston tapped out to Lince Dorado in the main event ... Dominated his 2008 feud with Shane Storm, leaving the masked man bloodied and battered at every turn ... Has a devastating backfist strike.

279 MADMAN PONDO (5'10", 220, 19, 350) Has lived up to his name this year, participating in and winning a "Four Corners Of Pain" staple gun match against Vortekz ... Lost an "Electrified Tubes" match against Corporal Robinson ... Won a series of tag matches, including a "Fans Bring The Weapons" match (teaming with 2 Tuff Tony) and a "House Of Pain" match (teaming with Necro Butcher) ... Recently beat U-Gené, Jason Dukes, and Breyer Wellington in Juggalo wrestling ... His finishing move is the stop-sign smash.

280 SCOTT CARDINAL (6'4", 261, 2, NL) Ohio Valley competitor is a former sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps and served during Operation Enduring Freedom ... Uses the sharpshooter, superkick, and an inverted spinning neckbreaker he calls Order 66 ... Known as "Raw Talent" ... Occasionally teams with Dirty Money ... Has come close to winning both the OVW TV and tag titles, but has yet to taste championship gold ... Seems to be a lock for a championship in the near future.

Photo by Koichi Yoshizawa



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281 MICHAEL SAIN (6'4", 267, 6, NL)

An intense brawler who batters opponents with punches, throat strikes, and elbows before putting them away with his strait jacket driver (a Death Valley driver variation) ... Competes for Pro Wrestling Syndicate, Northeast Wrestling, New England Championship Wrestling, and other East Coast promotions ... Stalks opponents and usually controls the pace of the match, simply due to his raw power ... Devastating sidewalk slam.

282 LIZMARK JR. (6'2", 242, 17, 165)

Son of the Blue Genius lost his mask last summer at the hands of veteran Blue Panther ... Became a strong competitor within the CMLL roster ... Formed a short-lived tag team in the fall with Shocker to compete in an incredible tag team hair-vs.-hair match ... The tag team shaved the heads of Black Warrior and Rey Bucanero ... Challenged Dos Caras Jr. for the CMLL heavyweight title, but failed to capture the belt ... Finishes his matches with a sitdown power bomb.

283 SHINGO TAKAGI (5'10", 209, 4, NL)

One of the top stars in the Dragon Gate promotion where he leads super heel faction Real Hazard ... Spent a lot of time in the U.S. last year, winning the ROH tag team championship with Naruki Doi ... Held Pro Wrestling NOAH's GHC junior tag team championship with BxB (Killer) Hulk from January to March this year, and turned his back on Hulk shortly after their title defeat.

284 SUPER HENTAI (5'5", 175, 10, 461)

Widely respected veteran shed his evil HENTAI persona to revert back to fan-friendly mentor Super Hentai in the International Wrestling Cartel ... Started 2007 in the Unholy Alliance, but rebelled against the group when Dennis Gregory assumed control ... Had a nasty feud with Gregory's hired gun, Brent Albright ... Became the last Cleveland All-Pro junior heavyweight champion by beating Zach Gowen, though that title has since been decommissioned ... Currently feuding with The Gambino Brothers ... Wins matches with his aces high splash.

285 CHAD PARHAM (6'3", 217, 8, 371)

"Technical Perfection" is

the recipient of a "Certificate Of Awesomeness," which was presented to him by NWA-Anarchy color commentator John Johnson ... Started his career as the silent "Lost Boy" Gabriel, but is now one of the most talkative—and arrogant—competitors in NWA-Anarchy ... Defeated "Mr. Mid-Atlantic" Damien Wayne in the first round of the NWA heavyweight title tournament but lost to the eventual tournament winner, Adam Pearce ... Two-time Anarchy champion uses the piledriver as his finisher of choice.



286 MAXIMO (5'7", 176, 8, 188)

Young member of the Alvarado Nieves family and son of Brazo de Plata enjoys toying with his rivals, using unorthodox moves ... Known for his affection toward CMLL commentator Leo Magadan ... Frequently accompanied by CMLL mascot Kemonito ... Competes mainly in mid-card trios matches, teaming with such men as El Sagrado, Felino, Valiente, and cousin La Mascara ... Uses a flying butt bump as his signature maneuver, a very uncomfortable move for his opponents.

287 KEVIN DUNN (5'11", 190, 8, NL)

Best known for being one-half of The Ring Crew Express ... Has competed for Ring of Honor, CHIKARA, Full Impact Pro, Jersey All-Pro, and dozens of other promotions throughout Western New York and Southern Ontario ... Also had success as a single competitor, holding titles in NWA-Upstate and other promotions ... Known for his Gory bomb and his version of the burning hammer ... Trained by H.C. Loc.

288 MEAN MARCOS (5'7", 180, 8, NL)

One-half of The Ring Crew Express with Kevin Dunn ... Claims to hail from Paradise City and lists the members of Poison as friends on his MySpace page ... Frequently goes up onto Dunn's shoulders for the electric chair drop into a senton bomb—or just for impromptu chicken fights, which occur with surprising regularity when the RCE is competing ... Gained a cult following in Ring of Honor with their armbar air guitars and Marcos' fearless stage dives from the ring to the floor.

289 HALLOWICKED (6'1", 195, 6, 318)

Largely considered the top student produced by the CHIKARA Wrestle Factory, Hallowicked put that title to the test in a long feud with Eddie Kingston that culminated in a falls-count-anywhere match last November ... Kingston won ... Has made occasional appearances with both ROH and FIP in the past year ... Part of the tag team Incoherence with Delirious, they are the current CHIKARA "campeones de parejas," with numerous defenses to their credit ... Is a main-event player with Canadian promotion C-4 wrestling ... He calls his fishermanbuster-turned-Rydeen-bomb finisher the graveyard smash.

290 KOTARO SUZUKI (5'8", 183, 7, 113)

An exciting junior heavyweight who wrestles for Japan's Pro Wrestling NOAH ... Held both GHC junior titles last year as two wrestlers: the singles title as his alter ego, the masked Mushiking Terry, and the tag title as himself with partner Ricky Marvin ... Has a very large arsenal of moves, his favorites including the blue destiny (Gory neckbreaker) and myst crash (half-nelson suplex).

291 BRAZO DE PLATA (5'7", 241, 31, 228)

Better known as "Super Porky," Brazo comes from the Alvarado Nieves family ... Used as a veteran competitor that guides the younger AAA talent ... Frequently teams with Intocable and Octagon for trios matches ... Feuded with Abismo Negro and the Vipers Revolution ... Tried to team with Abismo Negro, but his sudden disappearance halted the union ... Finishes his opponents with a splash.

292 JOE BRAVO (5'8", 220, 15, NL)

The veteran of the Puerto Rican scene is looking for revenge after he was betrayed by his rulebreaking allies in the World Wrestling Council ... Longtime heel currently is in the fans' good graces ... Competed in the IWA promotion for several months but debuted in WWC last year on the "War In North" supercard ... Uses a fast-paced offense, keeping opponents off-guard with deep armdrags, blistering chops, and a flying bodypress reminiscent of Ricky Steamboat's.

293 PHOENIX STAR (5'8", 175, 5, NL)

One-half of the NWA-Pro tag team

champions with Zokre ... The masked grappler is a Southern California favorite because of his unorthodox offense and uncanny ability to counter any move by using the ropes as a springboard ... Has a nifty bodyslam into armbreaker combo ... He and Zokre teamed with lucha legend Mil Mascaras and Los Chivos to win a huge 10-man tag match in the AWS last summer.

294 BRAIN DAMAGE (6'4", 270, 5, NL)

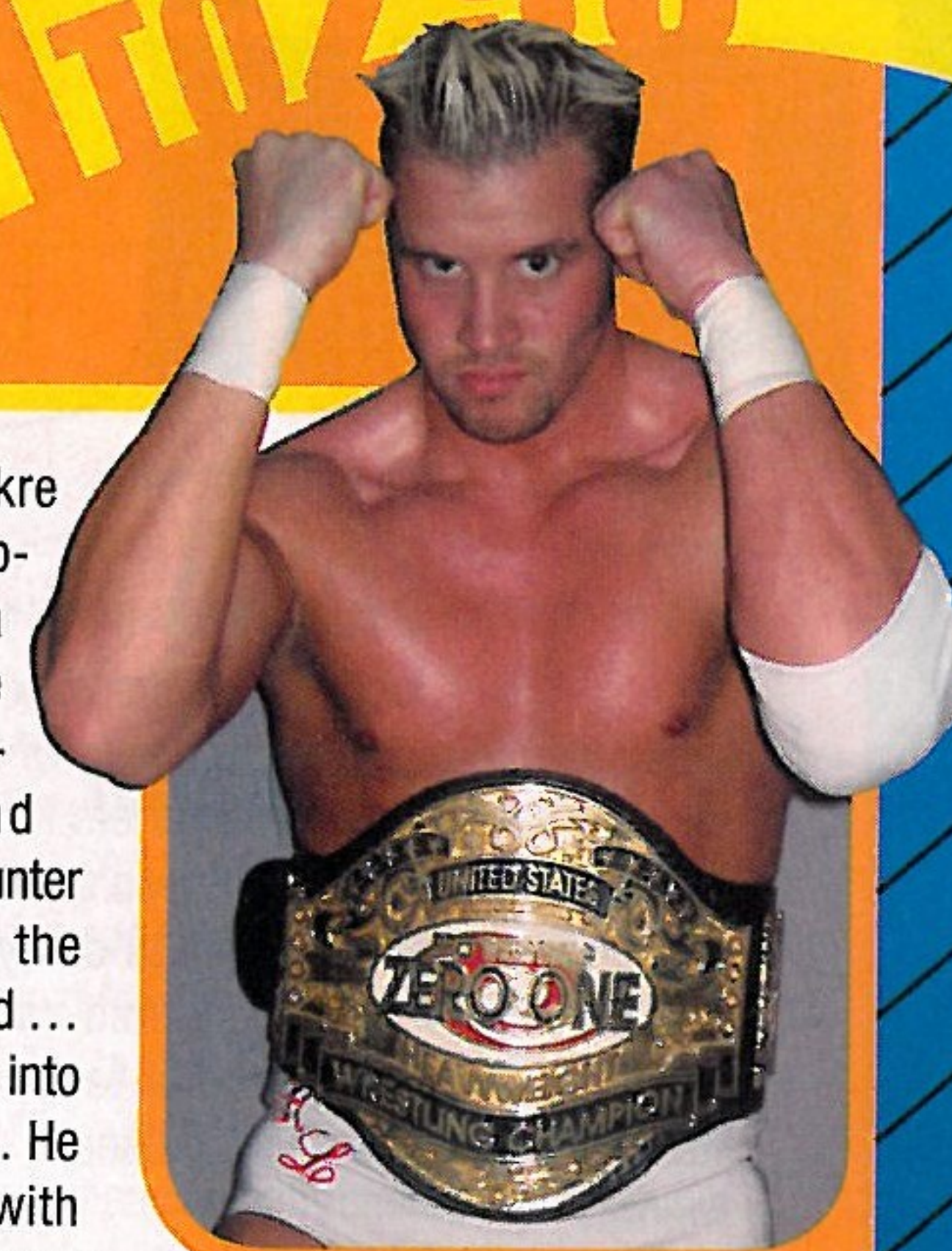
The aptly named wrestler is quickly becoming one of the standard-bearers of hardcore wrestling ... Won the Combat Zone Wrestling ironman title in January, beating Joker in overtime of a "Home Run Derby Death" match ... Also held the CZW ultraviolent underground title ... When not bloodying opponents with an arsenal of weapons, usually uses a package piledriver to win matches.

295 RICKY LANDELL (6'1", 221, 5, 400)

Steve Corino's star pupil continues to impress ... Captured the ZERO-ONE United States heavyweight title in June 2007 with a win over Zach Gowen ... Won the AWA fighting heavyweight title in March; the title represents the best in all fighting disciplines ... Aspires to win the AWA heavyweight title ... Has faced former champions Corino, Sgt. Slaughter, Larry Zbyszko, and Jerry Lawler ... Sets up for his fisherman's suplex finisher with an effective fistdrop off the top rope.

296 BAM NEELY (6'6", 280, 7, 295)

Formerly known as Justin "The Ox" LaRoche in Ohio Valley Wrestling, Neely debuted on Smackdown in April as Chavo Guerrero Jr.'s new bodyguard ... Got his start in Steel Domain Wrestling as Magnus Maximus ... Held the OVW Southern tag title with Charles Evans ... He and Evans scored wins over The Major Brothers (Ryder and Hawkins) and Jesse and Festus in OVW before that team fell apart and began feuding ... Teamed with Chavo to beat Kane in a handicap match in April.



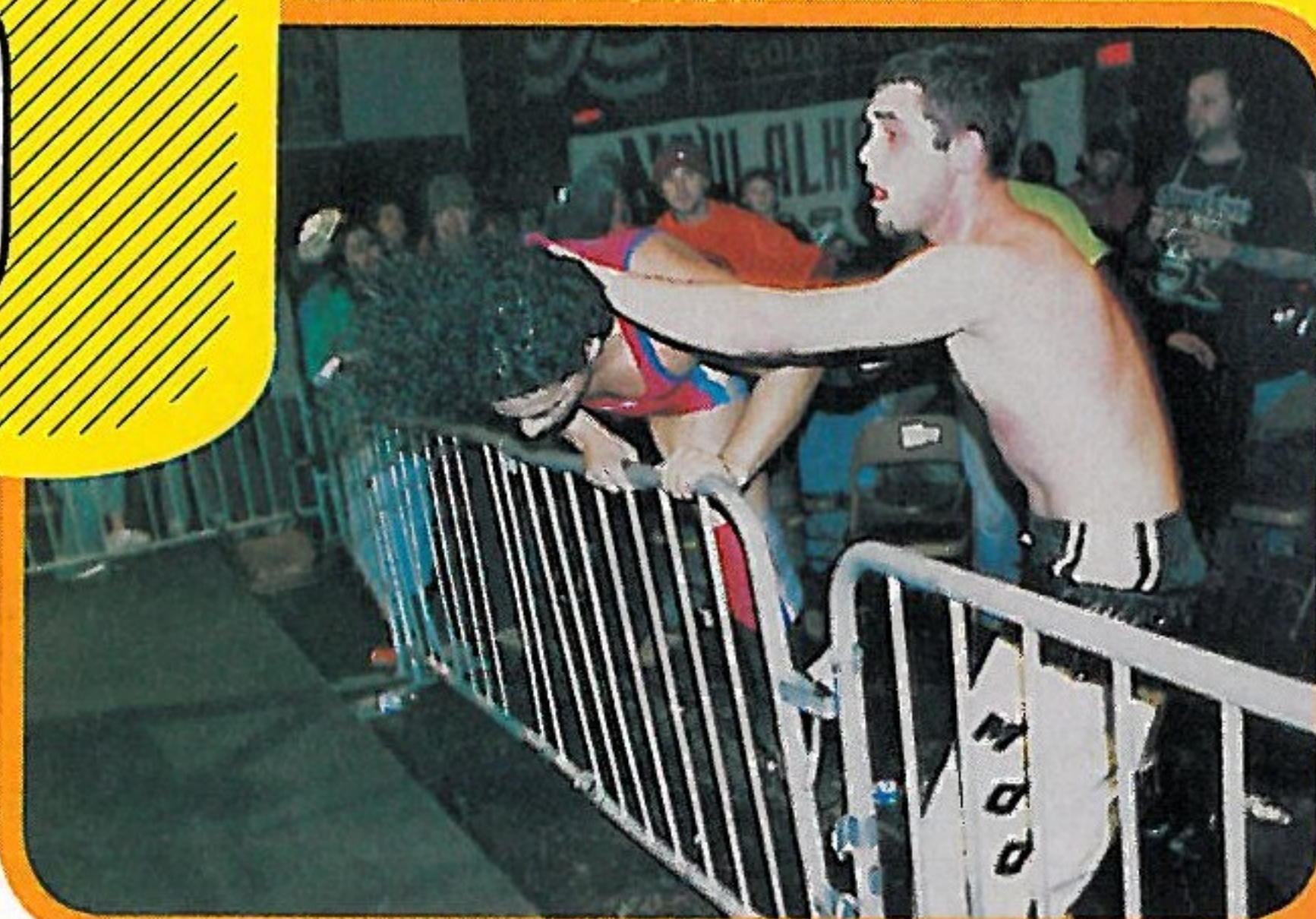
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297 FELINO (5'7", 190, 26, 176) Fastest luchador of the Mexican deck ... Veteran continues to put over the legacy of the Casas dynasty ... Usually teams with his brothers Negro Casas and Heavy Metal ... Shaved Perro Russo's head in Los Angeles last summer ... Veteran who guides young competitors in trios, mainly in lower- and mid-card matches ... Hasn't been involved in a crucial feud, due to his role as a teacher for newcomers ... Uses la casita to pin his opponents.

298 LARRY SWEENEY (5'9", 190, 4, 331) "Sweet 'n' Sour" has barely wrestled for Ring of Honor, but he's made himself one of the focal points of the company and one of the most controversial figures in the sport ... Attempted a hostile takeover of ROH in February ... Recently signed Davey Richards and Go Shiozaki to Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. ... Two-time IWC Super Indy champion ... Was involved in one of ROH's most controversial incidents when he tried to force Bobby Dempsey to take advantage of an incapacitated Allison Danger ... Known for his '68 comeback special (hangman's neckbreaker into a DDT) and Sweeney stomp.

299 JOKER (5'10", 200, 8, NL) "Cambodian Axe Murderer" teamed with Ricky Reyes, to beat the SAT and All Money Is Legal for the Pro Wrestling Unplugged tag title ... Teamed with Sabian to mixed success ... Won the CZW "Best Of The Best" tournament ... In November 2007, defeated D.J. Hyde, winning the CZW iron-man title ... Lost the title to Brain Damage in a 20-minute "Home Run Derby Death" match ... His finishing move is the Joker driver.

300 DEVON MOORE (5'10", 175, 7, 340) Lost the Pro Wrestling Unplugged heavyweight title to 2 Cold Scorpio in a "Crazy 8" match, but regained that title in a rematch, thanks to the help of guest referee Larry Zbyszko ... Teamed with Mickie Knuckles to defeat Tank and Insane Lane in IWA: Mid-South ... Lost to J.C. Bailey in a scaffold TLC match ... Sometimes teams with fellow PWU wrestler Detox ... Finishing move is the shooting star press.

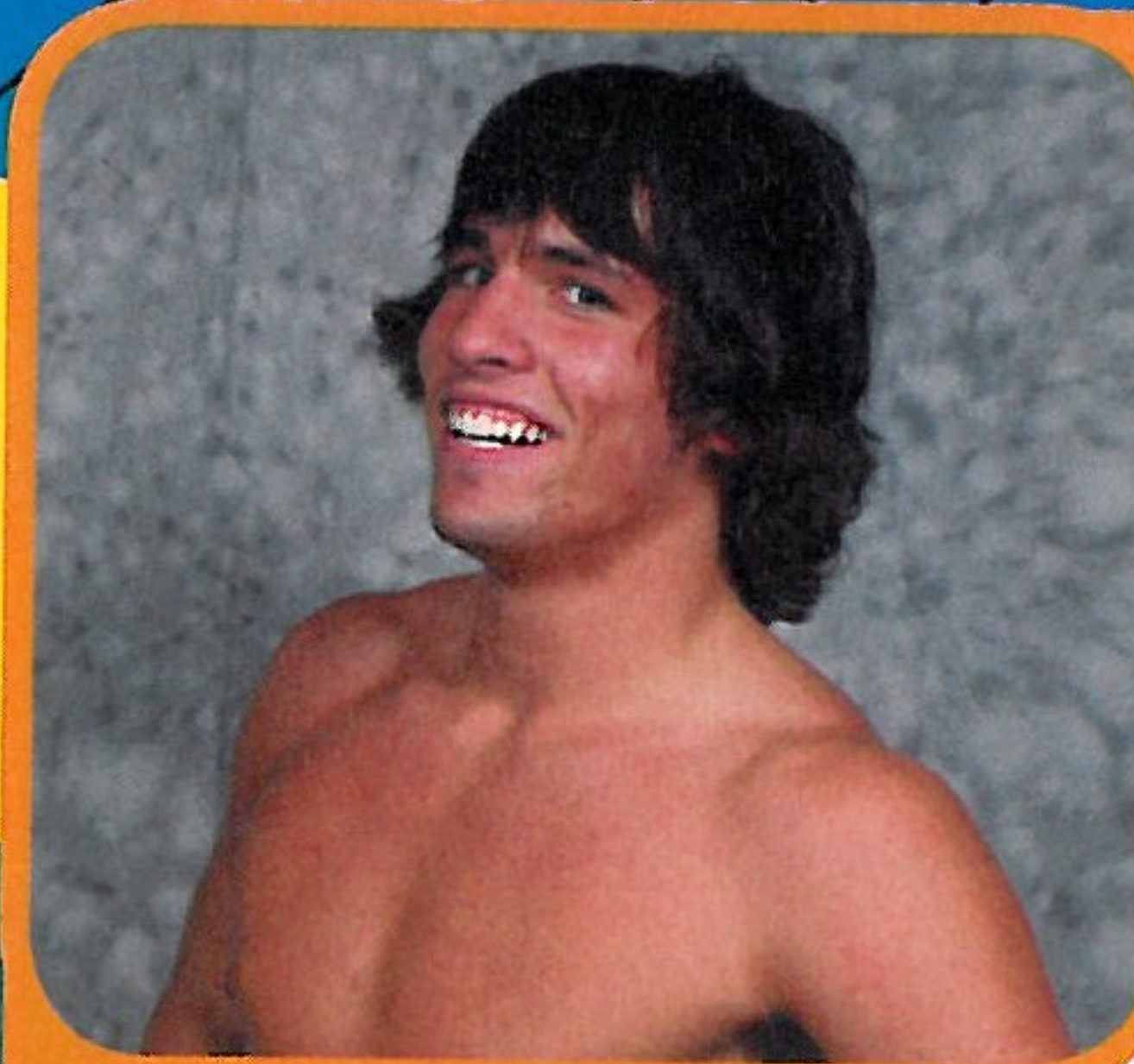


301 RICKY MARVIN (5'7", 174, 13, 107) One of the best talents out of Mexico in recent years, Marvin is based full-time in Japan for Pro Wrestling NOAH ... A key component of NOAH's junior division ... Held the GHC junior tag team championship for 10 months last year with partner Kotaro Suzuki, successfully defending the belts five times ... Broke his leg last November, but was back by March 2008 ... Debuted in 1995 at only 15 years old.

302 ZOKRE (5'8", 181, 5, NL) Masked luchador is one-half of the NWA tag team champions along with Phoenix Star ... Los Luchos defeated Karl Anderson and Joey Ryan in a steel cage match in July ... Lost to Ryan and Anderson in a no-DQ match ... Recently lost to The Ballard Brothers in SoCal Pro Wrestling ... His finishing move is the springboard swanton bomb.

303 BOBBY FISH (5'10", 228, 6, NL) Formerly known as Jerk Jackson, his career has taken off since the name change ... A native of Albany, New York ... Enjoying a successful tour of Japan's Pro Wrestling NOAH ... Trained by Tony DeVito of ECW fame ... Has made a few appearances in Ring of Honor ... Climbs to the top rope to launch a damaging moonsault or a nasty diving headbutt.

304 TANK TOLAND (5'8", 225, 8, 195) Career is back on track after a disastrous run in WWE as one half of The Dicks ... Debuted in Ring of Honor in late-2006 ... Gained some indy cred by winning the Extreme Wrestling Federation "X8" tournament, beating Brent Albright ... Acted as Chris Hero's personal trainer in ROH and was a member of Larry Sweeney's Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. faction ... His finishing move is the terret (spinning Polish hammer).



305 HELIOS (5'10", 174, 4, 386) Formerly known as Ricochet ... Lost a match last August that stipulated he could never show his face in CHIKARA again ... To circumvent the ruling, he has donned a mask and renamed himself Helios, even winning the "Young Lions Cup" last October from perennial rival Chuck Taylor ... Couldn't get past Taylor in the eighth annual "Best Of The Best" tournament held in May ... Made his Mexico debut this spring ... A fearless high-flyer, he is the first person of record to execute a double moonsault press, consisting of two revolutions instead of the usual one ... Currently uses a standing shooting star press to finish his matches.

306 BLACK PAIN (6'7", 350, 3, NL) The behemoth from Puerto Rico recently signed a WWE developmental contract ... Though he has only been wrestling a few years, has already held the World Wrestling Council Universal championship ... Had an intense and bloody feud with Bronco #1 in 2005 that culminated with a dog collar match ... Tremendous speed and surprising agility have had people compare him to a young Vader ... Has a crushing big splash.

307 PELLE PRIMEAU (5'5", 140, 4, 354) Was a second runner-up in the Rookie of the Year voting in the 2007 PWI Achievement Awards ... Participated in the ROH "Race To The Top" tournament, defeating B.J. Whitmer in the first round before falling to Davey Richards ... Teamed with Antonio Blanca to defeat The American Nightmare, only to have Blanca turn against him ... Got revenge by beating Blanca in December ... Recently teamed with Delirious to win a tag team scramble match against Brent Albright and Chris Hero and The Vulture Squad.

308 NAOYA OGAWA (5'7", 174, 11, NL) A judo silver medalist for Japan in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics ... Has been highly controversial in his 11 years as a pro wrestler ... Left the colorful Hustle promotion last year for the more serious Inoki Genome

Federation, run by his teacher, Antonio Inoki ... Is in the main event of most IGF cards, often against other Japanese stars or big name Americans such as Mark Coleman and Josh Barnett.

309 CHUCK TAYLOR (6'1", 185, 5, 314) This Midwest independent has broken out in a big way, even making his European debut this past March ... A Former Young Lions Cup champ of CHIKARA, but lost that title to the masked Helios in October 2007 ... Is enjoying yet another lengthy reign as IWA: Mid-South heavyweight champion ... Won a tournament in April to reclaim the belt ... Makes up one-third of the F.I.S.T. stable with Gran Akuma and Icarus ... The current CZW lightweight champion, having defeated Sabian in May ... His piledriver variation, the omega driver, makes for a deadly finishing move.

310 BRUISER (6'3", 320, 10, NL) A Maryland institution, Bruiser is a five-time MCW heavyweight champion and a four-time tag team champion ... Spent most of the past year feuding with former tag team partner Patrick Brink ... Currently embroiled in a heated rivalry with Danny Doring ... Frequently uses a legdrop from the second rope ... Has scored wins over Jerry Lawler and Orlando Jordan.

311 RHETT TITUS (6'2", 217, 3, 376) Claims to be "The Sexiest Man Alive" ... Trained at the Ring of Honor training center under Austin Aries ... Competes in several promotions across the Northeast ... Lost to *Tough Enough* winner Daniel Puder in just 30 seconds in a \$1,000 challenge match on a ROH card in January ... Has an effective lariat and a precision dropkick, which he uses to set up opponents for his frog splash finisher.

312 ABISMO NEGRO (5'9", 191, 18, 154) Pyromaniac has been turned by the AAA fans into an instant favorite ... Leader of the Vipers Revolution but barely teamed with his stablemates ... Vipers kicked him out of the group, proclaiming Mr. Niebla as their new leader ... Feuded with Mr. Niebla in a series of blood-baths ... Frequently teamed with Brazo de Plata in an odd tag team ... Fought the newly added Black Abyss in tag team and trios bouts ... Finishes his opponents with his lethal martinete special.

297 TO 312

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313 BLUE PANTHER (5'6", 211, 30, NL) Veteran defeated Lizmark Jr. in a mask-vs.-mask match last summer ... Feuded with Villano IV, but the rivalry never culminated in a high-profile match ... Wrestled Ultimo Guerrero in a series of intense trios and singles matches ... Formed a team with Dos Caras Jr. and Mistico to challenge for the CMLL trios title, but the team failed to capture the belts ... Makes his opponents submit to the palanca lagunera.

314 SAVIO VEGA (5'11", 250, 24, NL) Kingpin of Puerto Rico's IWA is splitting his time between Puerto Rico, Division One Pro Wrestling in Florida, and Nu-Wrestling Evolution in Spain ... More active than ever, after several years of concentrating more on promoting than in-ring competition ... Won the Revolution X-Treme Wrestling heavyweight title ... Formed a heel stable called Los Autenticos with Miguel Perez Jr. and Ricky Vega ... Created a "terror list" of wrestlers who worked for rival promotions over the past 10 years, orchestrating gang-style attacks on them.

315 ULTIMO DRAGON (5'8", 186, 21, 213) Still proving that he has some gas left in his tank ... Spent this year wrestling mid-card matches in CMLL ... Frequently teamed with young athletes like La Mascara and El Sagrado ... Occasionally competed in high-profile matches ... Competed in Canada's UWA Hardcore Wrestling against the likes of Sonjay Dutt, Alex Shelley, and Chris Sabin ... Set to star in two films for 2008 ... Uses his asai DDT to end matches.

316 KEVIN THORN (6'3", 265, 8, 94) Has been conspicuous by his ECW absence in recent months ... Has recently been competing under the name Kevin Fertig and apparently dropped his vampiric persona ... Dominated Tommy Dreamer but struggled in matches against C.M. Punk and Stevie Richards ... Previously competed as Mordecai in WWE ... Finishing moves are the crucifix (Razor's edge) and the original sin (rope hung stunner) ... Very talented wrestler whose ability has been obscured by goofy gimmicks.

317 FREDERICK OF HOLLYWOOD (6'2", 255, 6, NL) Favorite moves include the

tilt-a-whirl back-breaker, the belly-to-belly suplex, and the northern lights suplex ... His finishing move is the running powerslam ... Has held both the ECWA heavyweight and the ECWA Mid-Atlantic championships ... Attempted to win back the heavyweight title in January and March, losing matches to Freak Nasty and a four-way match to Aden Chambers ... Recently defeated the 400-pound Mega.

318 VAL VENIS (6'2", 227, 13, 245) The "Big Valbowski" had a nice little winning streak going on *Heat*, taking wins over Charlie Haas, Sterling James Keenan, and Jay Bradley ... Appears on Raw periodically but hasn't had his arm raised in victory there in a long, long time ... Offered Maria a part in one of his movies, prompting Santino Marella to attack him ... Former Intercontinental champion is still using his money shot splash from the top rope.

319 TOM BRANDI (6'2", 231, 23, NL) Veteran competes under his own name and periodically as Sal Sincere and The Patriot ... As The Patriot, teamed with Buff Bagwell to beat Jonnie Stewart and Ricky Landell for the AWA tag title ... Advanced to the final round of the "Jersey J-Cup" tag team tournament with The Blue Meanie ... Used a full-nelson slam he called Sincerely yours during his Sincere days in the WWF.

320 MITCH RYDER (6', 218, 17, 327) "Simply Marvelous" has taken the Midwest and East Coast scenes by storm, thanks in part to the success of the Fabulous Three stable he leads, comprised of Larry Sweeney and Shayne Hawke ... Ryder is the founder and star of the Indiana-based XCW: Midwest ... Has been on a hot streak since setting his sights on tag team gold with Shayne Hawke ... Trademark move is the time-honored piledriver.

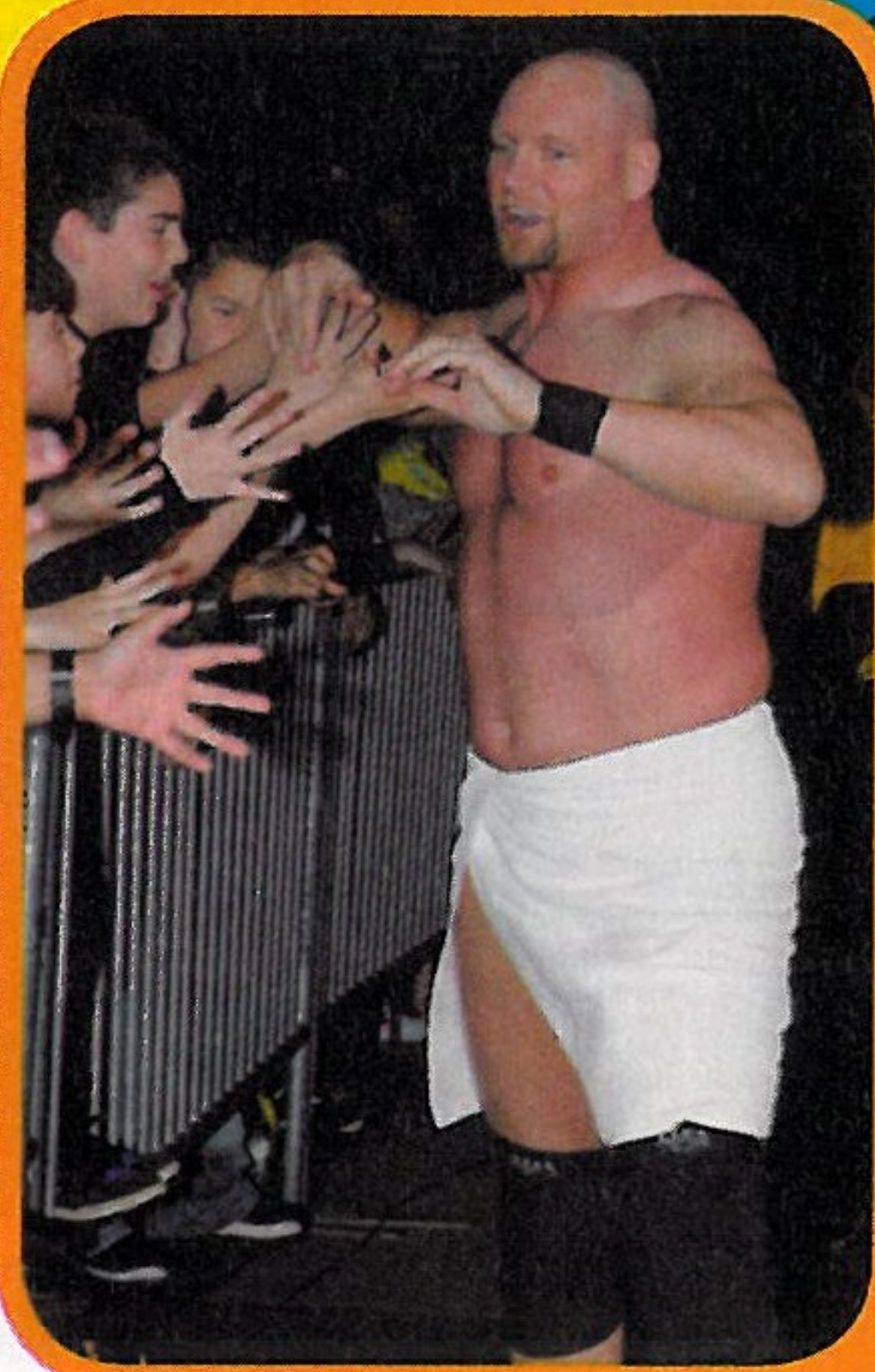


Photo by Joe Zanolle

321 TAKA MICHINOKU (5'9", 183, 16, 146) Founder of KAIENTAI DOJO, the promotion he formed after returning to Japan from WWE ... Continues to appear all over Japan as a K-DOJO representative, but has become less active in All Japan this year ... Forms a popular tag team on home turf with JOE named "Team Handsome" ... Still uses his famous Michinoku driver, as well as a painful submission hold simply called "facelock."

322 DAMIAN (6', 285, 4, NL) The wrestler formerly known as Ash Rubinsky in the World Wrestling Council established himself under his new ring name after jumping to the IWA ... "The Monster" went on an undefeated streak upon his return to the IWA, but that streak came to an end in March when he was pinned by Glamour Boy Shane, who used the ropes for extra leverage ... Formed a stable known as Los Templarios.

323 TYSON DUX (5'10", 200, 6, NL) "Textbook" is part of Team International in TNA's "World X Cup" tournament ... Defeated Brian Lee with a brainbuster in UWA Hardcore Wrestling ... Defeated Phil Latio to win the Pro Wrestling Xtreme bar title in September ... Managed to beat Derek Wyld at the 19:59 mark of a 20-minute match to win the X division title ... Lost 60-minute ironman matches to Johnny Devine and Derek Wyld ... His finishing move is the kryptonite crunch DDT.

324 ADEN CHAMBERS (6', 190, 6, 332) The "O.C. Boy" held the ECWA heavyweight title from March 17, 2007, until March 1, 2008, when he finally lost the title to Scott Wright ... Won

the title in a four-way match that included Freak Nasty, Frederick of Hollywood, and Ace Darling ... Previously held the ECWA tag title with Andrew Ryker ... Easy-going surfer boy is a fan favorite ... Uses the surf's down piledriver and occasionally breaks out an impressive moonsault.

325 CRAZY BOY (5'9", 190, 12, NL) Another ultraviolent and hardcore luchador on the AAA roster ... Part of the Mexican Powers ... Wrestled many trios and tag team bouts with Juventud Guerrera and Joe Lider ... Feuded with Halloween's Tijuana Family in gruesome hardcore matches ... A back injury sidelined him for a few months ... Returned and lost the AAA tag team title to Halloween and Extreme Tiger, due to Joe Lider's betrayal ... Uses the Spanish fly as his signature move.

326 ADAM FLASH (6'1", 212, 6, NL) Wrestles on the independent circuit, competing for the Intense Championship Wrestling Federation (ICWF) ... Previously worked in Generation X Wrestling (GXW) and the now-defunct IXWA ... Feuded with Frostbite before aligning with him to battle against the Suicide Kings and Bryce Glacier ... He uses a shooting frog drop (combination shooting star press and frog splash with a mid-air rotation) and submission hold Adam splitter (a cobra clutch and crucifix hybrid) as his finishers.

327 TAKU IWASA (5'10", 207, 8, NL) A popular member of the Tozawajuku faction in Japan's Dragon Gate promotion ... Returned from a broken arm in January after missing several months ... Forms a successful tag team with Keni'chiro "Araken" Arai ... The two enjoyed a three-month reign as Open the Twin Gate champions earlier this year before losing the belts to Susumu Yokosuka and Ryo Saito.

328 INCOGNITO (5'11", 204, 9, NL) The original Mistico of Juarez is now known the world over by the name Incognito ... A big star in Tijuana, Monterrey, and other border towns, he broke onto the East Coast independents thanks to a big win at the second annual "King Of Trios" tournament with partners El Pantera and Lince Dorado ... Followed up by defeating Helios to capture the title "Rey de Voladores" in May in Philadelphia ... Has appeared with TNA, teaming with fellow luchador Magno ... Favorite hold is called "Incognito especial," a painful leglock.

313 TO 328

pwi500

329 ANTHONY BRAVADO

(6'1", 285, 1, NL) The massively muscled competitive bodybuilder and trainer has made a huge impact in Louisville, winning the Ohio Valley Wrestling heavyweight title from Nick Dinsmore on June 25 ... Got his start in OWW's affiliate promotion, Derby City Wrestling ... Holds the unofficial record of "longest stall suplex ever seen in the Davis Arena" with a 62-second hang-time against Sweet Stevie ... Still largely an unknown commodity but appears to be on the verge of a major breakthrough after winning the OVV title.

330 THUNDER

(5'10", 260, 8, NL) With his partner Lightning, one-half of Puerto Rico's most dominant tag team of the past decade ... The two joined forces in April 2000 and went on to win the World Wrestling Council tag title 14 times and the International Wrestling Association tag title six times ... As the name would suggest, Thunder is the powerhouse of the team ... Hoping to follow in his partner's footsteps and find championship success as a singles competitor ... Has his eye on the WWC Universal title ... Using a fireman's carry facebuster.

331 ANDREW RYKER

(6', 205, 7, NL) The East Coast Wrestling Association standout announced his retirement shortly before press time, citing medical problems ... Graduated from the Bonebreakers wrestling school in 2001 ... Began competing for the ECWA in 2004 and was selected to compete in the 2005 "Super 8" tournament, where he lost to Alex Shelley in the first round ... Wrestled several WWE dark matches ... Held the ECWA tag title with Aden Chambers ... Known for his persistence and a will to win that made him one of the most popular competitors in the ECWA.

332 SPIKE DUDLEY

(5'8", 150, 14, 196) The former Brother Runt began competing in 2CW and the CWA after being released from TNA last year ... He soundly defeated Malachi in CWA last November ... Squandered an opportunity to obtain the Big Time Wrestling title, losing to John Walters with Jonny Fabulous ... Rebounded with victories against Antonio "The Promise" Thomas and Jay Blaze ... Was defeated by Franciz, who won the first AWESOME champion title ... Still uses the Dudley dog (acid drop) and loves to play the giants.

333 JORGE RIVERA

(5'7", 174, 23, 415) The former Skayde of Mexico lost his mask to Mistico last year, and has been wrestling under his given name ever since ... Head trainer of Ultimo Dragon's Toryumon gave up his job there to tour with Dragon Gate in Japan, where he has become a regular ... One of Mexico's most respected mat men, he has a virtually limitless number of holds in his repertoire ... Returned to U.S. action in February, teaming with Shane Storm and Mike Quackenbush for CHIKARA's "King Of Trios" tournament ... His Skayde especial is like a backward la magistral cradle.

334 THE ATOMIC DOGG

(6'3", 275, 10, NL) Big, raw-boned brawler returned to the ring after a lengthy absence ... Got his start in the WCW Power Plant ... Was the first champion in Harley Race's WLW promotion ... Wrestled Takeshi Morishima last year in WLW ... Teams with "Red Dogg" Rodney Mack as The Dawg Pound ... Flattens opponents with an array of spinebusters, sidewalk slams, and gorilla press slams ... Calls his finisher the Dogg catcher ... Also competes in Memphis and throughout the Mid-South.

335 LIGHTNING

(6'1", 230, 8, NL) The other half of Puerto Rico's most dominant team tried his hand at singles competition and managed to beat Savio Vega for the IWA heavyweight title ... Lost that title a short time later to Mikal Judas ... Has been managed by La Tigressa and Orlando Toledo ... Both members of the team like to use the chokeslam ... Their double-team finisher is a flapjack from Lightning, followed by an Ace crusher from Thunder.

336 BRYAN KELLY

(6', 215, 3, NL) WWE developmental prospect currently is competing in Florida Championship Wrestling ... Previously competed in Ohio Valley Wrestling ... A fan favorite known for his upbeat attitude, enthusiasm, and his ever-present smile ... A former USCW heavyweight champion ... Also competed in SCW before signing with WWE developmental ... Has teamed with Rycklon and Johnny Curtis.



337 JUDAS YOUNG

(5'10", 215, 9, NL) The outspoken Young is the reigning NWA Pro East champion ... A punk rocker from the Lower East Side of New York City ... Trained by "Flyboy" Rocco Rock, Les Thatcher, and Simon Diamond ... Won the ISPW heavyweight title last year by winning a TLC match against Crowbar, Ace Darling, and Mr. Stronko ... Calls his finisher the punk rock drop.

338 TAIYO KEA

(6'1", 234, 14, 249) A native of Hawaii, "Mr. H50" has been with All Japan Pro Wrestling for all 14 years of his career ... Saw his career going nowhere fast after losing every match in the 2008 "Champion's Carnival," so he formed a new heel unit with Minoru Suzuki named Gurentai in May ... The two captured the AJPW tag team championship on June 28 ... His favored finisher these days is the TKO34th.

339 KAZ HAYASHI

(5'8", 183, 16, 151) The face of All Japan Pro Wrestling's junior heavyweight division has called AJPW home ever since ending his long stay in America in 2002 ... Has constantly been at the top of All Japan's junior division but has been without the AJPW junior heavyweight championship since dropping it to Taka Michinoku in early-2005 ... Now a veteran of 16 years, Hayashi remains youthful both in appearance and ability, moving as quickly and gracefully as ever around the ring.

340 HYJINX

(5'11", 209, 10, NL) The insane jester of Kyda Pro Wrestling may be a king of comedy, but he's also a deceptively talented mat wrestler ... Competes throughout West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland ... Previously teamed with C.A.

Elliott, but now teams with Xander Maddox ... Lives by the guiding credo of "What Would He-Man Do?" ... Trained by Jimmy Valiant ... Suffered a dislocated knee in May that has kept him out of action.

341 STERLING JAMES KEENAN

(6'1", 220, 8, 372) Won a six-man futures match at "Ballpark Brawl 8" and proceeded to walk into the main-event match between Samoa Joe and Rikishi, making it a three-way ... Keenan was mercilessly pummeled by The Samoans, but managed to win the match by countout and earn the Natural heavyweight title due to a countout stipulation ... Has become a superstar in Europe where he competes for 1PW and other promotions ... Has appeared on WWE TV several times ... Trademark maneuver is the MK ultra.

342 ARIK CANNON

(5'8", 220, 7, 380) "The Anarchist" has been keeping busy with his new promotion, F1RST Wrestling, based out of Minneapolis ... Recently completed a tour of Japan and has faced top-notch international competition against the likes of CIMA, Pac, and Dragon Kid ... Teamed with Genki Horiguchi to beat Keni'chiro Arai and Akira Tozawa on Dragon Gate's "Gate Of Destiny" PPV ... Mixes international styles with old-fashioned American brawling ... Finisher is the glimmering warlock, a shining enzuigiri.

343 SHANE HAGADORN

(5'11", 200, 4, 363) Had the unlikely distinction of losing a match to Bushwhacker Luke in Ring of Honor in March ... Part of the Hangmen 3 contingent in ROH ... One of the original graduates of the ROH training school, Hagadorn won the "Top Of The Class" trophy in 2007 ... Uses a cross-face takeover as his finishing move ... When all else fails, tends to rely on his trusty set of brass knuckles.

344 EL PANTERA

(5'7", 188, 23, 296) Veteran tecnico of lucha libre has worked all throughout his native country as well as overseas during his storied career ... Won the 28-team "King Of Trios" tournament hosted by CHIKARA with partners Lince Dorado and Incognito ... Made five tours with All Japan this past year under the name Tanaka ... A main-event player with the Naucalpan-based IWRG group, he wrestles there without his famed mask ... Has a remarkably graceful moonsault body-block for a man his age.

329 TO 344

pwi500

345 KASSIDY JAMES (5'11", 205, 13, 279) The former Cassidy O'Reilly made his WWE debut in January 2007 in a loss to his fellow TNA emigrant, Marcus Cor Von ... Signed a WWE developmental deal and relocated to Ohio Valley Wrestling ... Adopted the name Cassidy James and teamed with "brother" K.C. James to win the OVW Southern tag title four times ... Released from his WWE contract in February.



346 MAX VON BAUER (6'5", 271, 4, NL) Von Bauer is the powerhouse of the former ECWA tag champions, The Berlin Bad Boys, with Kermion the German ... Also competes in Chaotic Wrestling as Max Bauer ... Has held the Chaotic tag title with both Arch Kincaid and Alex Arion ... Scored a big win over Nick Dinsmore in October 2007 ... Won the East Coast Championship Wrestling heavyweight title by beating Mark Gore.

347 DOUG WILLIAMS (6'1", 233, 12, 84) A master of the British mat wrestling style ... Earned the nickname of the "Human Torture Device" ... Based in England, but has also competed for Pro Wrestling NOAH and Ring of Honor ... Recently signed with TNA ... Signature finisher is the chaos theory, where he pushes an opponent into the turnbuckle, grabs them in a waistlock, rolls through, and hits a hard German suplex.

348 AL SNOW (6', 234, 26, NL) Cagey veteran may take plenty of flack from Mick Foley, but he's enjoying a successful run in the indies ... Oversaw the progress of the developmental wrestlers in Ohio Valley Wrestling until WWE severed ties with OVW; Snow was released from WWE shortly thereafter ... Feuded with Vladimir Kozlov in OVW last summer ... Beat "Textbook" Tyson Dux in August with the assistance of Head ... Finishing move is the Snow plow.

349 SINN BOWDIE (6'2", 234, 8, NL) "Carnival Freak" actually used to be the strongman in the Carnival Diablo traveling circus of the macabre ... Originally trained by Ron Hutchinson, the "Original Sinn" has been everywhere, competing for WWE,

TNA, and throughout the U.S. and Canada ... Competed in OVW as Nicholas Sinn, then picked up stakes and moved down to Florida to compete in FCW ... Once relied on a rubber ducky named Squeaky to give him advice.

350 JOHN MCCHESNEY (5'10", 208, 6, NL) Looking to achieve bigger and better things, hence the new nickname "Big League" ... Former Super Indy champion in the International Wrestling Cartel ... Has made several appearances on WWE TV ... Has collected wins over Christopher Daniels and C.M. Punk ... As either a heel or a fan favorite, McChesney always thrills the fans with his suicide dives, lightning-quick counters, and innovative offense.

351 SHAYNE HAWKE (5'8", 176, 6, 467) Obnoxious redhead and Montreal native became a breakout star after forming The Fabulous Three with Larry Sweeney and Mitch Ryder ... Had standout performances at this year's "King Of Trios" tournament ... Fared well in the sixth annual "Young Lions Cup" in June, ousting Bobby Dempsey ... Has lost only one tag team match since teaming with Ryder ... His tomaHawke finisher drives opponents face-first into the canvas.

352 TRUITT FIELDS (6'1", 231, 4, NL) Fields is a wildly popular and clean-cut babyface competing in NWA-Anarchy ... Defeated Jeremy Vain for the NWA-Anarchy TV title in September 2007 ... Has also been battling the Devil's Rejects and coming to the aid of his allies, Consequences Creed and Hayden Young ... Uses the killing Fields uranage variation ... A U.S. Marine and Iraq War veteran ... Also competes throughout Georgia, Tennessee, and the Carolinas.



353 JOHN KERMION (5'8", 195, 8, 466) Kermion the German is one-half of The Berlin Bad Boys with Max Von Bauer in the ECWA ... The Berlin Bad Boys are former ECWA tag team champions ... Kermion has a hot temper and frequently gets disqualified for refusing to adhere to the referee's instructions ... Two-time former KYDA heavyweight champion ... "Rampage" uses a stiff double-foot stomp similar to Senshi's way of the warrior maneuver.

354 CRUZZ (6'1", 270, 8, NL) Combines the powerful punches of a super heavyweight with the quickness of a cruiserweight ... Won the IWA Puerto Rico tag team title with Diabolico ... Comes and goes from IWA as he pleases and competes on the Puerto Rico independent circuit ... Big right upper-cut similar in look and impact to Kane's ... Rugged and stiff competitor promises that opponents will be sore long after the final bell has sounded.

355 ORLANDO JORDAN (6'4", 250, 8, 291) Former WWE U.S. champion has had success on the international scene, completing tours with New Japan and Nu Wrestling Evolution ... Called out The Ultimate Warrior, who came out of retirement to answer the challenge for a June match in Barcelona, Spain ... Warrior beat Jordan to take his NEW heavyweight title then returned to Parts Unknown ... Former member of JBL's Cabinet is wrestling better than ever and fulfilling his championship potential.

356 ROBERT ANTHONY (6'3", 220, 7, 373) Anthony has returned to the indies after being released from his WWE developmental

contract in February ... Wrestled under a mask as the flamboyant Egotistico Fantastico ... Competed in 3XW and Mercury 1 Wrestling before moving to Deep South Wrestling ... Wrestled in FCW for six months, teaming with the likes of Kofi Kingston, Ted DiBiase Jr., and Rycklon ... Known for his deadly reverse tombstone piledriver.

357 ULTRAMANTIS BLACK (6', 206, 7, 399) The leader of CHIKARA's creepy Order of the Neo Solar Temple stable, which includes Hydra, Crossbones, and Tim Donst ... Completed an extensive tour of Europe this spring, competing in nine different countries ... Uses a frightening finishing move in his praying mantis bomb, where he drops opponents directly onto their heads ... Guided the Order past The Sea Amigos and Up in Smoke in this year's "King Of Trios" tourney.

358 STEVE LEWINGTON (6'2", 220, 4, 259) Recently began competing as "Sterling" Jack Gabriel ... Earned a WWE developmental deal for an impressive showing in a Raw match against Umaga in England in 2007 ... Teamed with Chet the Jet as Terminal Velocity ... Team held the OVW Southern tag title for three weeks before splitting and relocating to FCW ... Teamed with Heath Miller to make it to the finals of the FCW tag title tourney before losing to The Puerto Rican Nightmares.

359 JOHNNY KASHMERE (6', 192, 10, 462) Former Backseat Boy (with Trent Acid) was integral in creating Philadelphia's Pro Wrestling Unplugged, where he serves as owner and president ... Dubbed himself the "New Batman" last year ... Hosted a Bat Cave interview segment that featured "Diamond" Dallas Page, Larry Zbyszko, and others ... Primary finisher is the cradle breaker, a cradle suplex lift transitioned into a neckbreaker.

360 2 DOPE (5'11", 220, 10, NL) One-half of the reigning Maryland Championship Wrestling tag team champions, along with Queenan Creed ... Previously held that championship on four other occasions with partner Sydeswype ... Known as The Ghetto Mafia, they defeated Ruckus and Sabian to win the belts ... The team has also feuded with both the Voodoo Kin Mafia and Team 3D, proving they can hang with the top tandems in the sport.

345 TO 360

PWI 500

361 MIKEY WHIPWRECK (5'7", 185, 14, NL)

This ECW original is still active on the New York independent scene ... Teamed with Stockade as a member of The Black Circle to defeat the Dirty Rednex (Dirty Vinny Stylin and Dirty Moore) ... Lost a match to Dickie Rodz, allowing Rodz to retain the NYWC title ... Rematch against Rodz was called a draw ... In October, beat "Big Time" Tony Burma ... Victorious over Quiet Storm in a "Psycho Circus" qualifying match ... Finishing moves are the Whippersnapper and the super Whippersnapper.



362 TAJIRI (5'8", 187, 19, NL)

Labeled a "genuine global superstar" in his homeland of Japan ... Calls Japan's Hustle promotion his home but frequently ventures out into other promotions such as All Japan and Dradition ... The "Hustle Buzzsaw" has made several special appearances for WWE this year, fueling speculation that he could be on his way back to the United States soon ... Continues to knock opponents senseless with his deadly buzzsaw kick.

363 MIKE KRUEL (5'10", 215, 7, 194)

Second-generation competitor currently is based out of Florida Championship Wrestling ... Former ECWA champion lost that belt to Christopher Daniels in a semifinal match during the 2004 "Super 8" tournament ... Extremely skilled mat wrestler with an explosive offense and a mean streak ... Claims to be the "American Hero" ... A submission master, Krue can apply the liberty lock and Krue escape armbreaker with lightning speed.

364 N8 MATTSON (6', 205, 12, NL)

Proud graduate of Scott D'Amore's Can-Am Wrestling school successfully defended his IWR King of the Indies title against Jerry Lynn last October ... Reunited with Michigan Invasion partner Truth Martini to battle The Motor City Machine Guns in a memorable tag bout ... Appeared on *Heat* in a loss to The World's Greatest Tag Team ... Also appeared on MTV's *Made*, facing a would-be wrestler in a six-man tag match ... Finishing moves include "the amazing legdrop" and the M-80 swinging neckbomb.

365 TAKASHI IIZUKA (5'11", 227, 22, NL)

A lifelong babyface, Iizuka betrayed

Hiroyoshi Tenzan in April and became a villain for the first time in his 22-year career as part of the GBH faction in New Japan ... The formerly honorable "Submission Master" has now shaved his head and uses a sadistic heel style involving a metal mesh glove he jabs into victims' throats.

366 NOEL RODRIGUEZ (6'2", 215, 3, NL)

Second-generation wrestler is the son of one of the best brawlers in Puerto Rico wrestling history, Victor the Bodyguard ... Has inherited some of his famous father's brawling skills, but is a more well-rounded competitor ... Formerly a member of the Starr Corporation ... Formed a vicious team with Dennis Rivera that terrorized the IWA.

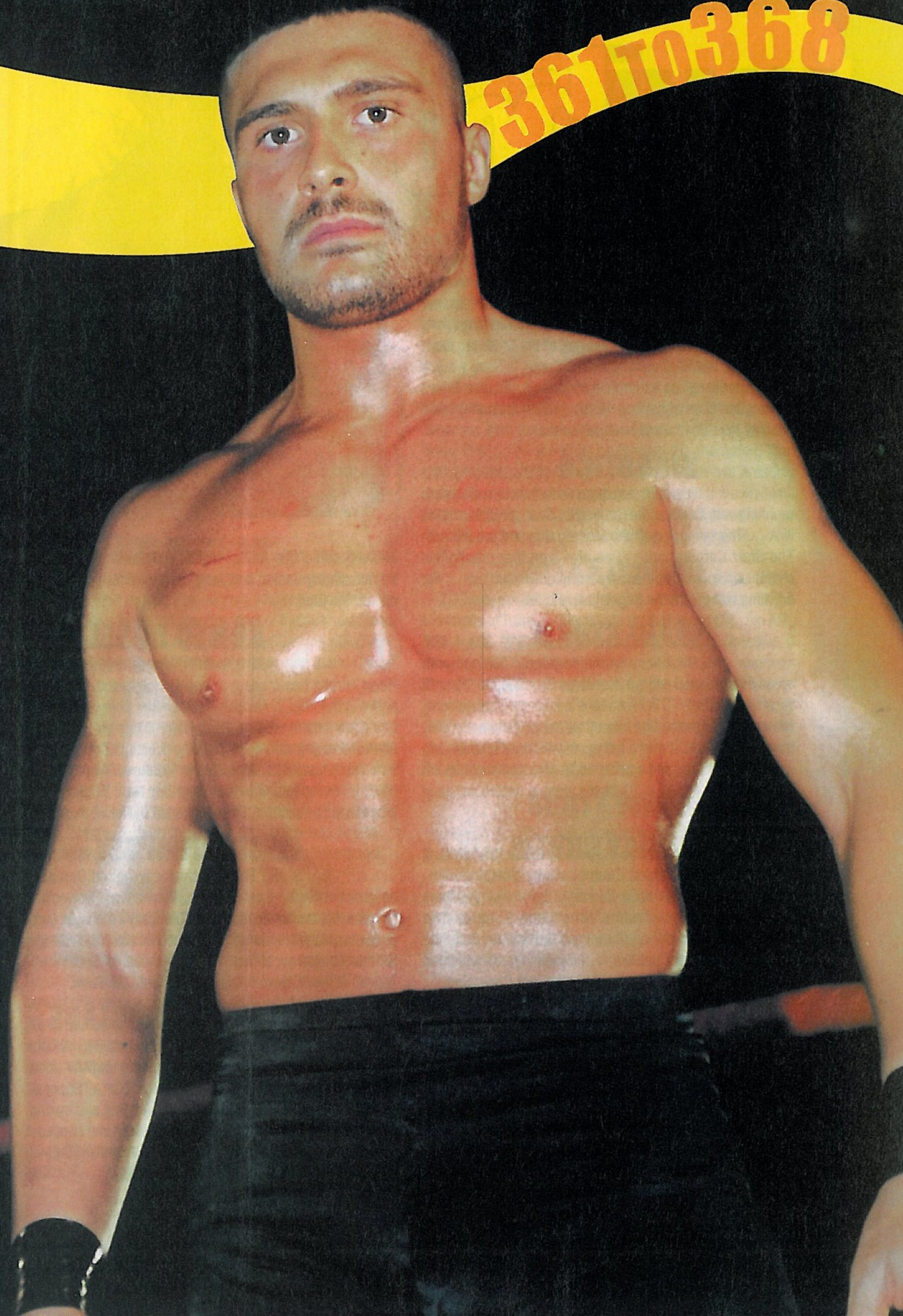
367 EL GRAN APACHE (5'6", 189, 33, NL)

Seemingly gets better with age ... Feuded with daughter Fabi Apache and Billy Boy ... An injury put him in a wheelchair, but he continued to manage daughter Mari Apache ... Returned to capture the vacant AAA mixed tag title with Mari ... Fought with Billy Boy in trios matches, frequently teaming with Condor and Gallego ... His head was shaved after Mari lost her hair at the hands of sister Fabi ... Pins opponents with a crucifix power bomb.

368 AFA JR. (6'3", 265, 10, NL)

The latest Samoan clan member to step into the squared circle is competing in Florida Championship Wrestling under a WWE developmental deal ... Started wrestling at the age of 16 and split time between competing in father Afa's WXW promotion and playing football for the University of Connecticut ... Was selected to play in the prestigious U.S. Army All-American Bowl alongside Brady Quinn and Reggie Bush ... Uses the frog splash and Rock bottom as main finishers.

361 TO 368



pwi500

369 QEENAN CREED (5'10", 187, 9, NL) One of the most decorated cruiserweights in Maryland ... Former "Shamrock Cup" winner (2001) and former Maryland Championship Wrestling cruiserweight champion ... One-half of the MCW tag team champions The Ghetto Mafia with 2 Dope ... Uses a quick la magisterial roll-up to surprise opponents, but also enjoys winning matches with a frog splash ... Lost to Low-Ki in the finals of the 2001 "Jersey J-Cup" tourney.

370 DIABOLICO (5'8", 215, 15, NL) Puerto Rico veteran was stuck in a rut before reuniting with Cruzz and reforming La Cruz del Diablo in the IWA ... The tandem won the IWA tag title and feuded with The Starr Corporation ... Has also won that prestigious championship with partners Joe Bravo and Draco Lee ... Pet finishing moves are the frog splash and the reverse DDT.

371 SHANE STORM (5'9", 223, 4, 433) CHIKARA's "Traffic Regulator" teamed with mentor Mike Quackenbush and Jorge Rivera in the "King Of Trios" tournament ... Team made it to final eight before being eliminated ... Established himself as one of the premier tecnicos in CHIKARA ... Had a falling out with Quackenbush and went solo ... Struggled against Eddie Kingston and was left bloodied and bruised ... Calls his shining wizard variation "That Japanese Move."

372 JOHNNY CURTIS (6'1", 218, 3, NL) Florida Championship Wrestling competitor trained under Killer Kowalski before joining Deep South Wrestling ... Teams with Kevin Kiley as The Thoroughbreds in FCW ... Challenged Ted DiBiase Jr. for the FCW title in January, but lost ... Teamed with Billy Kidman to beat Hade Vansen and Heath Miller last December ... Widely considered to be a top WWE prospect.

373 KAHAGAS (5'11", 215, 10, 442) The "Japanese Nightmare" is making an impact on the Florida independent scene ... Toured Panama this year and has begun competing in the reformed Urban Championship Wrestling promotion ... Kahagas has held the Coastal Championship Wrestling Southeastern championship for more than a year ... Known for his no-nonsense attitude

Photo by Tim Walker

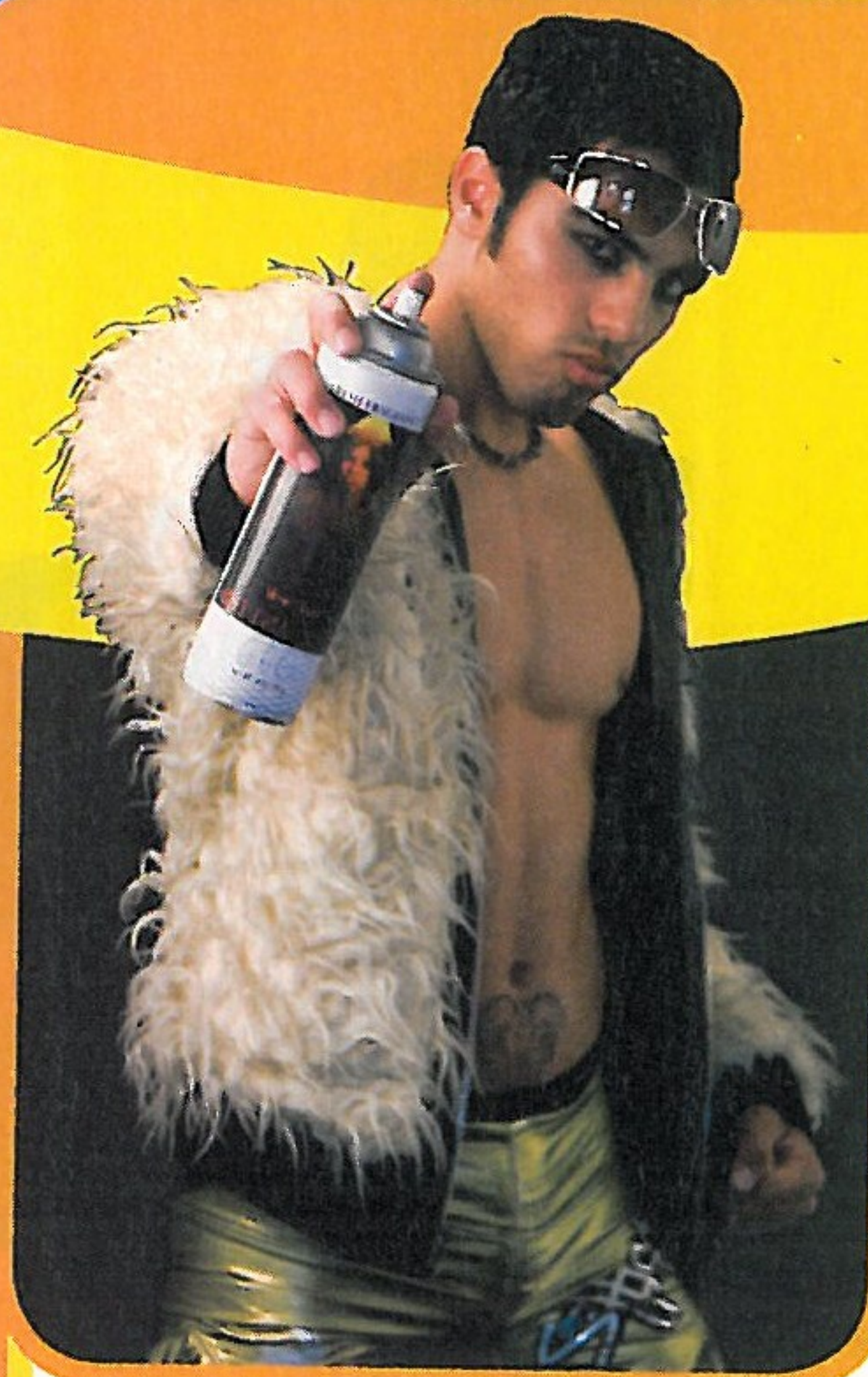


and very stiff chops ... Has feuded with Dustin Rhodes, The Patriot, Jimmy Snuka, and Jerry Lynn ... Finishing move is called "Me Stuff You."

374 ROMEO ROSELLI (6'1", 221, 9, 317) Former member of The Heart Throbs has made a splash in Hollywood, but is still active in the ring ... Appeared in the films *College Road Trip* and *Baby Mama*, and wrestled Ron Killings on the Jersey All-Pro Wrestling card that was being filmed for the upcoming film *The Wrestler* ... Competes in Northeast Wrestling, for NWE in Europe, and is the reigning New England Pro Wrestling champion ... Often managed by Velvet Sky.

375 BOBBY DEMPSEY (5'9", 235, 3, NL) The chubby, frizzy-haired Dempsey became the center of controversy when he was involved in a storyline that insinuated rape when Dempsey's manager, Larry Sweeney, pushed him on top of an unconscious Allison Danger to "make a man out of him" ... Part of Sweet 'n' Sour Inc. ... Trained at the ROH wrestling school under C.M. Punk.

376 RUDY SWITCHBLADE (6', 203, 8, NL) California standout Eric Matlock has relocated to Louisville and is competing for OVW under the new name ... Competed in the 2005 ECWA "Super 8" tournament ... Has a background in mui thai and boxing, which accounts for his superior striking skills and knockout power ... Four-time former International Wrestling Council tag champion and former EWF tag champion.



377 JIM DUGGAN (6'3", 240, 30, 256) "Hacksaw" may be a few steps slower, but he's still a Raw regular that elicits a vocal reaction from the fans ... Was a fixture on *Heat* for most of the past year, feuding with Paul Birchall, Charlie Haas, and Santino Marella ... Formed an oddball, yet effective, tandem with Super Crazy.

378 TRENT ACID (5'11", 180, 13, 403) "International Superstar" is based out of Pro Wrestling Unplugged ... Defeated Alex Shelley and Human Tornado in a three-way match in June ... Former member of The Backseat Boyz still teams with Johnny Kashmere occasionally ... Scored a tainted win over former WWF tag champ Scotty 2 Hotty ... Recently beat Justin Credible and Aramis ... His finishing moves are the Acid bomb and the Yakuza kick.

379 KAFU (6'4", 241, 6, NL) The "Brazilian Beast" signed a WWE developmental deal in January and debuted in Florida Championship Wrestling ... Graduated from the All Pro Wrestling Boot Camp under Bryan Danielson and Michael Modest, won the APW heavyweight title on two occasions ... Appeared on WWE *Heat* in a loss to The Highlanders in March 2007 ... Also competed in NWA-Pro and IWA Puerto Rico ... Uses a crucifix power bomb as his finisher.

380 JERRY LAWLER (6', 236, 38, 281) "The King" defended his claim as the "King Of Wrestling" this year ... Feuded with King Booker in 2007 ... Lost a loser-crowns-the-winner match to

Booker for the right to be called "The King" ... Feuded with the returning Sid Vicious in Memphis and in Northeast Wrestling ... Showed he can still hang with the youngsters by scoring several wins over Santino Marella ... Still has one of the best right hands in wrestling and possibly the premier piledriver in the sport.

381 SHIIMA XION (5'8", 160, 4, 368) Part of the tag team Babyface Fire with Jason Gory ... After losing to The Gambino Brothers, Xion and Gory defeated them to win the IWC tag team title ... As the FNW cruiserweight champion, Xion defeated his partner Gory ... Known for his two finishing moves: from lust 2 dust (snapmare driver) and the Philipino destroyer (reverse snapmare driver) ... Has a favorite move he calls the Mary Lou Retton splash (spiral tap dive).

382 ATLAS DaBONE (6'3", 255, 1, NL) Played shortly as a linebacker for the University of Tulsa ... Played pro football in the CFL, the AFL, and—yes—the XFL ... Debuted in Ohio Valley Wrestling in January 2007 ... Wrestled several WWE dark matches throughout 2007 ... Beat Mike Kruel in a best-of-three series to become the top contender to the OVW title in January 2008 ... Sidelined for six weeks with a torn knee ligament but returned to action this spring ... Finisher is the boneyard boogie splash ... Began wrestling as Ricky Ortiz in July.

383 SCOTT WRIGHT (6', 205, 8, NL) Has been a regular Sherlock Holmes, trying to determine who attacked Freak Nasty in the ECWA ... His ongoing accusations are beginning to make people wonder if he's trying to orchestrate a witch hunt to cover his own tracks ... A former ECWA heavyweight champion ... Arrogant competitor targets opponents' backs with his Boston crab and fisherman suplex.

384 NAVAJO WARRIOR (6'2", 267, 17, 375) Veteran competitor recently reformed his Native Blood tandem with Ghost Walker ... Won the American Championship Wrestling heavyweight title with a win over A.C. Tsunami in Salt Lake City ... Also held the World Pro Wrestling U.S. title ... Native Blood unified the Impact Zone Wrestling and NWA-Arizona tag titles, and emerged as a top contender to the AWA tag title ... Helped train Luther Reigns and rising star Hawaiian Lion.

369 TO 384

pwi500

385 SAL RINAURO (5'9", 185, 6, 451) The "Big Deal" rebounded from a string of losses in late-summer by defeating Tony Santarelli ... Won the FIP Florida heritage title against Erick Stevens ... Was victorious over Austin Creed in a 30-minute ironman match ... Recently, as part of Young, Rich, and Ready for Action (YRR), helped to defeat Bushwhacker Luke, Dingo, and Alex Payne ... Known for his finishing move, the phoenix fury legdrop.

386 ROBIN KNIGHTWING (5'8", 212, 11, NL) Says he may not be a good-looking man, but he makes for a "Sexy Monkey" ... Canadian veteran teams with Joey Knight and Kevin Grace as The All-Knights ... Based in Ontario but has competed throughout the U.S. and in England ... Don't be deceived by his husky frame—this "Monkey" has been known to come flying off the tope rope from time to time.

387 SCOTT ZENZEN (6'1", 235, 7, 405) Rulebreaker finally surrendered Texas All-Star Wrestling's heavyweight title in January after a 735-day reign ... As champion, came out on top in feuds against Nick Daniels, Scooby Gober, and other top TASW stars ... Has enjoyed a four-month undefeated streak in TASW, waiting for the chance to strike back at the man who unseated him, Scooby Gober ... Teams with Dylan Starr ... Former postal worker finishes opponents with the return to sender or delivery confirmation.

388 JOEY KNIGHT (5'8", 202, 11, NL) Formerly managed by Beth Phoenix ... Frequently teams with Robin Knightwing and/or Kevin Grace as The All-Knights ... The team is known for its innovative entrances, wacky ring attire, and infectious dancing ... Scored an upset win over Big Guido in a David-vs.-Goliath style battle in Chicago ... Also competed against TNA stars Shark Boy and Eric Young.

389 SEAN WALTMAN (6'1", 213, 16, 145) Former X-Pac enjoys moderate success in FIP, defeating opponents such as Larry Sweeney and Kenny King ... Teamed with Billy Kidman in a failed effort to win the vacant NWA tag team title, losing to Joey

Ryan and Karl Anderson ... Defeated NWA heavyweight champion Adam Pearce by DQ in November ... Traveled to NWA-Pro Australia, winning matches against Bryan Danielson and Bobby Marshall ... Favors the bronco buster and the spinning heel kick.

390 JAMIN OLIVENCIA (5'10", 210, 4, NL) Buffalo, New York, native has been competing in OVW for the past three years and has established himself as a true crowd-pleaser ... Has held the OVW TV and Southern tag titles ... Feud with Jonny Puma in Empire State Wrestling was a watershed moment in his career ... Had the most intense feud of his career against Joey Mercury recently ... Appeared on WWE *Heat* in 2006 losing a tag match against Viscera and Val Venis.

391 KEVIN GRACE (5'10", 187, 8, NL) "Amazing" Grace is one-third of The All-Knights with Joey Knight and Robin Knightwing ... Competes throughout central and western New York, western Pennsylvania, and southern Ontario ... A fan favorite known for his high-energy entrances and dancing ... Recently challenged Jonny Puma for the NWA-Empire heavyweight title ... Surprised Puma by dancing during the match, compelling Puma to dance, only to attack him once the music stopped.

392 KILLER HULK (5'10", 170, 3, 360) In the tradition of Keiji Mutoh's Great Muta persona and Keiichi Yamada's split personalities of Jushin and Kishin Liger, Japanese fan favorite BXB Hulk has taken on a separate, darker identity while acknowledging that he wrestles under both names ... In his Killer Hulk debut for Dragon Gate, he mercilessly dismantled Yasushi Kanda in less than seven minutes ... Has reassumed his BXB Hulk identity but hinted that Killer Hulk is close by ... Boasts an array of kicks and powerslam variations.



393 SHO FUNAKI (5'7", 180, 18, 270) Longtime Japanese wrestler known for his rising sun (tornado DDT) ... Defeated Chavo Guerrero Jr. by DQ after Guerrero put a Rey Mysterio mask on him and assaulted him ... Lost a difficult "Beat The Clock" match to Guerrero ... Teamed with Kofi Kingston to beat The Highlanders ... Recently teamed with Batista, Nunzio, and Colin Delaney to defeat nemeses Edge, Guerrero, and The Edgeheads.

394 AZRIEL (6'1", 248, 9, 315) "Son Of Satan" has become part of The Devil's Rejects with Shaun Tempers ... Known for an unorthodox offensive style that relies on martial arts techniques ... Sometimes carries a sword to ringside ... Finishing moves include the Ted Bundy uranage and the Green Manalishi piledriver ... Spent the majority of the year feuding with The NWA Elite and Awesome Attraction.

395 J.D. MICHAELS (5'10", 215, 9, NL) "The Superstar" began the year on a promising note, winning the OCW heavyweight title from Sean Casey ... Paid his dues in OVW with several tough losses ... Rebounded to win the OVW TV title ... Beat such wrestlers as Dre Blitz, Rudy Switchblade, Damien Adams, and Ted McNaler ... Idolizes Shawn Michaels ... Married to April Hunter ... Finishing move is the top-rope elbow.

396 RICHARD RONDON (6', 210, 1, NL) This part-time actor is finding some success in the IWA under his real name after previously competing as Muerte Cibernetica 2 and Ravishing GQ ... Still uses the "Ravishing" sobriquet ... Won the IWA Intercontinental title in January by beating Romeo in Bayamon, Puerto Rico ... Main finishing maneuver is called the Ravishing landing.

397 TITAN (7', 312, 2, NL) At seven feet tall, it's probably just a matter of time before the big man leaves Florida Championship Wrestling and debuts in WWE ... Feuded with the "Mastodon Of Mayhem," G-Rilla, over the number-one contender spot for the FCW title ... Offense is entirely power-based ... Uses a painful nervehold

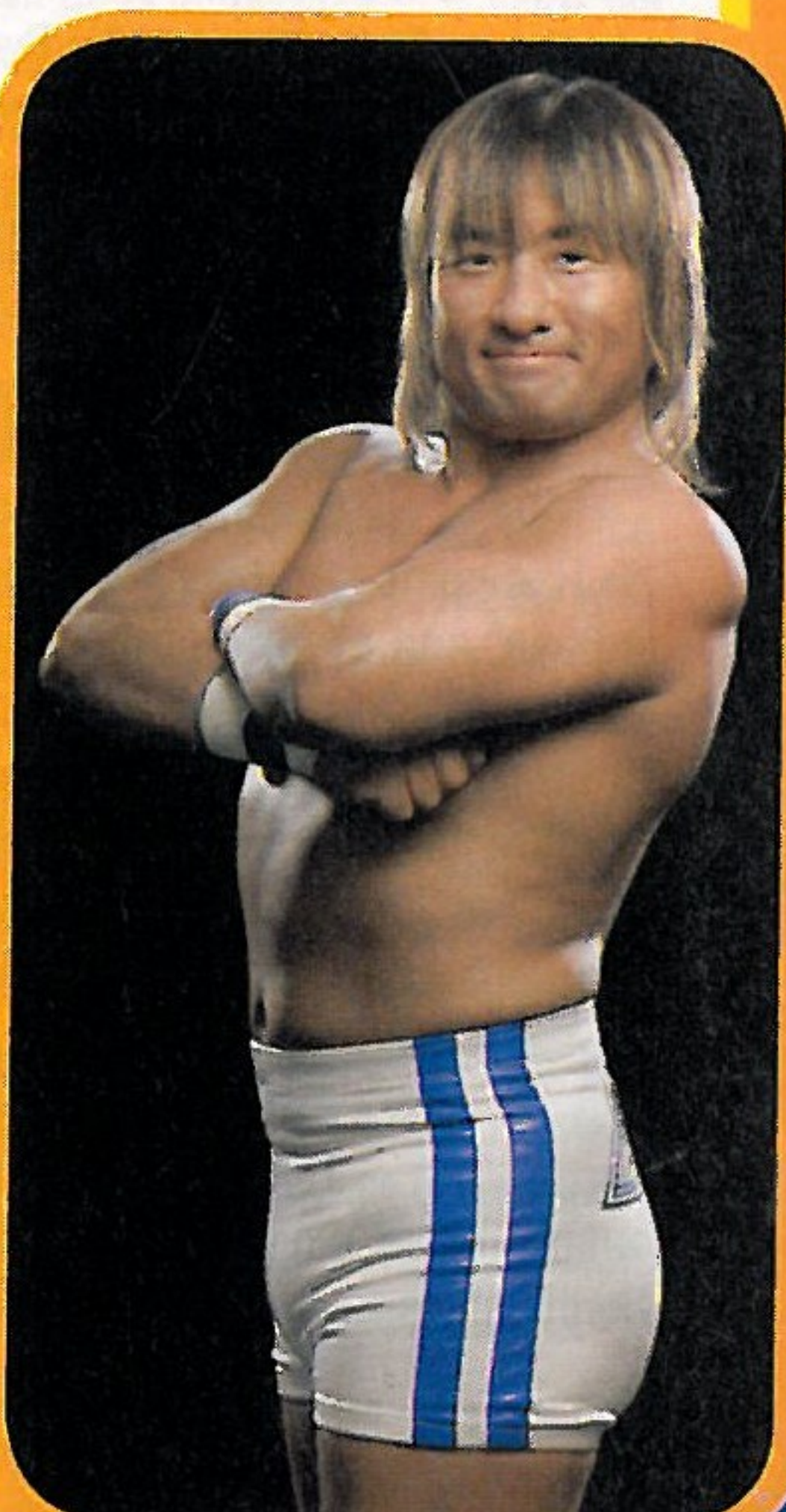
to slow down the pace of a match and wear down his opponents ... Usually wrestles—and wins—handicap matches against smaller foes.

398 ANTONIO THOMAS (6'1", 235, 7, 358) After suffering a series of losses in June to former Heart Throbs partner Romeo Roselli, "The Promise" managed to defeat "Hurricane" John Walters in July ... Suffered some tough matches against solid competition in Goldust, Slyck Wagner Brown, and Justin Credible ... Toured Italy with Nu Wrestling Evolution ... Reformed the Heart Throbs on the indy circuit ... Previously managed by Talia "Velvet Sky" Madison ... Finishing move is the promised land.

399 ACE DARLING (6', 240, 17, NL) Winner of the first-ever ECWA "Super 8" tournament is still going strong in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey ... Inducted into the ECWA Hall of Fame in 1996 and has won every championship in that promotion ... Trained at "Iron" Mike Sharpe's wrestling school ... Has cut back on a lot of high-flying, but has become a much smarter ring general ... Calls his DDT off the second rope his Ace in the hole.

400 COLIN DELANEY (5'10", 172, 5, NL) Original ECW fans compare him to

career underdog Mikey Whipwreck ... Has enjoyed an impressive career in the indies for several years ... Previously teamed with Jimmy Olsen as The Olsen Twins ... Competed throughout western New York, Pennsylvania, and Ontario ... Broke out with a televised ECW tryout match against Shelton Benjamin ... Became a running joke, taking brutal beatings from WWE stars ... Won an ECW contract by beating Armando Estrada on May 6.



John Glamundo/WWE/Courtesy of CW Network

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401 LARRY HUNTLEY (6', 269, 9, NL)

"The Enforcer" has competed in promotions everywhere from Puerto Rico to New Brunswick ... Often teams with Sonny Roselli as either Team Elite or The Scufflin' Hillbillies ... Won the American Wrestling Affiliates tag team title with Roselli in May ... Held the AWA North Atlantic championship for 18 months before dropping that title in March ... Uses the Death Valley driver as his preferred finisher.



402 CHASYN RANCE (5'9", 181, 9, 465)

With Mister St. Laurent, defeated Team Macktion to win the AWA tag team championship ... Still the defending AWA Southern light heavyweight champion ... Known for his Chasyn driver maneuver ... Had his ankle broken by Erick Stevens, but rehabbed quickly and returned to the ring ... Part of the 2007 "Jeff Peterson Memorial Cup," defeating Chi Chi Crux and Adam Flash before losing in the semifinals to Matt Cross ... Currently feuding with the Briscoes and Delirious.

403 RYCKLON (6'4", 305, 3, NL)

Freakishly muscled native of Harlem signed a WWE developmental contract in spring 2007 and has been assigned to Florida Championship Wrestling ... Previously wrestled as Ricky Atlas and Big Ryck Hytz ... Primarily competes in tag team bouts, often teaming with Steve Lewington ... Tremendous upper body strength ... Has been compared to Bobby Lashley and a young Tony Atlas, but still needs more seasoning to make it to WWE.

404 BILLY ROC (5'6", 165, 6, 417)

"Pure Dynamite" is a native of Lafayette, Indiana ... Has competed for IWA: Mid-South, CHIKARA, NWA-Indiana, and several other promotions throughout the Midwest ... Classic-style mat technician is well-respected for his polite demeanor outside the ring ... Won the Insanity Pro Wrestling super junior heavyweight tournament in November 2007 ... Has feuded with Chad Collyer and Mike Quackenbush ... Signature move is a standing shiranui.

405 NATE BASH (5'10", 186, 4, NL)

Unorthodox aerialist has competed throughout his native Minnesota, as well as Wisconsin, Iowa, and North Dakota ... Teams with Benjamin Sailer to make up the

team Midwest Ground and Air ... Known for his long, flowing hair and his suicidal dives ... A former cross-country runner, Bash has tremendous stamina and breaks out his spectacular topos and dives when his opponent is winded ... Main finishers are 450 splash and snapdriver.

406 ICEBERG (6'1", 450, 5, NL)

Ten-year veteran hails from "Places Men Fear To Tread" ... Reigning NWA-Anarchy heavyweight champion ... The "No Pain Train" has competed in Japan ... Former Wrestling's International New Generations (W*ING) hardcore champion ... Dropped to a "svelte" 450 pounds ... Incredible agility, balance, and stamina for a man of his size ... Ground-zero splash and extinction-level-event finisher flatten opponents ... Managed by "The Reverend" Dan Wilson.

407 ARMANDO ESTRADA (6'2", 230, 4, NL)

Estrada was riding high as general manager of ECW until Teddy Long deposed him for that job ... Humiliated by suffering multiple losses to ECW whipping boy Colin Delaney ... Nonetheless, Estrada is tremendously powerful and has plenty of potential ... Competed in OVW before coming to WWE as Umaga's manager ... Once campaigned to be named "Dictator Of Kentucky" ... Has a lethal falling reverse DDT he hopes to unveil in ECW.

408 CHARLES EVANS (6'1", 240, 4, 351)

"The Hammer" is a two-time former OVW TV champion and former OVW Southern tag champion with Justin LaRoche (Bam Neely) ... Appeared at WrestleMania 24 as a member of Floyd Mayweather's entourage and took a beating from The Big Show ... Beat his former partner LaRoche in a "Boot Camp" match in December 2007 ... Weakens opponents with a series of headbutts before finishing them off with a backbreaker.



409 MIKE REED (6', 235, 4, NL)

"Hot Shot" debuted in the East Coast Wrestling Association in the 2006 Summit battle royal ... Has feuded with Scotty Charisma all along the East Coast ... Trained at the Monster Factory under Larry Sharpe and Jim Molyneaux ... Style can best be described as old-school, mixing brawling and power moves with classic mat grappling and submission wrestling ... Finishing move is the hot shot.

410 JOHNNY GARGANO (5'10", 215, 3, NL)

Ohio competitor has taken a dark turn and discovered his killer instinct ... Feuded with Gregory Iron, brutally assaulting him and rendering him unable to leave the ring by his own power ... Former Cleveland All Pro Wrestling junior heavyweight champion ... Jerry Lynn's protégé in IWC ... Teams with Josh Prohibition in Pro Wrestling Ohio ... Finishes opponents with a full-nelson facebuster ... Won the Championship Wrestling Experience title in Youngstown, Ohio.

411 JUMPING JEFF JEFFREY (5'11", 210, 3, NL)

Promising aerialist has bounced around Puerto Rico and currently competes in Mexico ... Started his career as a preliminary competitor in the World Wrestling Council before jumping to the rival International Wrestling Association ... Returned to WWC under a mask as an invader from the IWA and won the WWC junior heavyweight title ... Has an impressive dropkick and one of the best vertical leaps in wrestling.

412 JONNY PUMA (5'10", 212, 6, NL)

Hip-swiveling heel out of Rome, New York, is the heavyweight champion in NWA-Empire and Ontario's

401 TO 416

PWA ... Popularized the catchphrase "Don't hate me for being beautiful; hate yourself for being ugly" ... Captured the NWA-Empire title by defeating Pepper Parks ... His Johnny on the Spot reverse Russian legsweep finishes opponents ... Lost his hair after succumbing to Brutus Beefcake's sleeper in a three-way match including Cody Deaner in August 2007.

413 BENJAMIN SAILER (5'10", 195, 5, NL)

"The Professional" is staking his claim as one of the most technically sound grapplers in Minnesota ... Frequently teams with Nate Bash as Midwest Ground and Air ... A mat technician in the mold of Dean Malenko ... Has wrestled throughout the Midwest this year, including in F1RST Wrestling, 3XW, MCW Battleground, Central States Wrestling, and AWA-RISH ... Known for his calm demeanor and ability to remain focused under pressure.

414 THE STRO (6'1", 245, 20, 402)

Former WCW competitor had an impressive year, winning his third ACPW heavyweight championship, as well as the NWA-Mountain State heavyweight title ... Created The Fourth Alliance with Stan Braddock, Sean Cruise, Cletus Bass, and Mr. Holly in APCW ... Faced Jake "The Snake" Roberts in an entertaining bout ... Calls his variation of the STF submission hold the encore ... Once competed under the name Gorgeous George III.

415 LESLIE LEATHERMAN (6'5", 282, 10, NL)

Veteran dropped an incredible 120 pounds ... New, streamlined physique has served him well in battles against the likes of Jake Roberts, Kevin Nash, The Honky Tonk Man, and Demolition Ax this year ... Won the CPW heavyweight title from Shane Shadows ... Teams with Jake Davis as The Highwaymen ... Known for his Leatherman death drop, a modified Samoan drop.

416 FREAK NASTTY (6', 220, 5, NL)

Former East Coast Wrestling Association heavyweight champion recently gained part ownership of ECWA ... His new managerial power didn't sit well with a lot of people, and he was attacked and injured by a mystery assailant in April ... Promises to use every ounce of his vaunted muscle to get revenge on whoever injured him ... Brash and arrogant demeanor has made him plenty of enemies.

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417 ALI AKBAR (6'1", 205, 2, NL) Former Ohio Valley Wrestling and Derby City Wrestling tag team champion lists his outside interests as "raising gas prices and terrorizing infidels" ... One-half of The Insurgency with Omar Akbar ... Team is managed by Bin Hamin, who frequently uses the Iraqi flag he carries as a weapon ... Crafty competitor riles up opponents with his controversial tactics, and calmly exploits them when they make mental mistakes.

418 LUKE HAWX (6', 197, 9, 455) Known as the "Southern Stomper," Hawx began the summer by winning three three-way matches against Aramis and Lucky, Aramis and "Fabulous" John McChesney, and Eddie Kingston and McChesney ... Was defeated by The Big Show, along with Chase Stevens and Andy Douglas, in a handicap match on Smackdown ... His finishing moves are the holy driver, the holy driver mach II, and the phoenix splash.

419 DEREK WYLDE (5'10", 202, 11, 247) Self-professed "King Of The Ontario Indies" is on a retirement tour, with his final match scheduled to take place right before press time ... "Dangerboy" has worked all over Canada, and has enjoyed tremendous success against top competition in UWA Hardcore ... Proposed to girlfriend/valet Jennifer Blake in the ring at a "Ballpark Brawl" event ... The lovebirds faced off in a surprising blood match last year ... Sky-drill press dive is a fan favorite.

420 MILWAUKEE MAULER (6'2", 290, 12, NL) Greatest moment of the past year was powerbombing Pig Vomit off the top rope en route to winning the APWF U.S. title ... Teams with Nitro as The War Machines ... Feuded with Team Clash in Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania ... Teamed with Shark Boy to score a win over Krash and Pat Tanaka ... Signature moves are the chokeslam and power bomb.

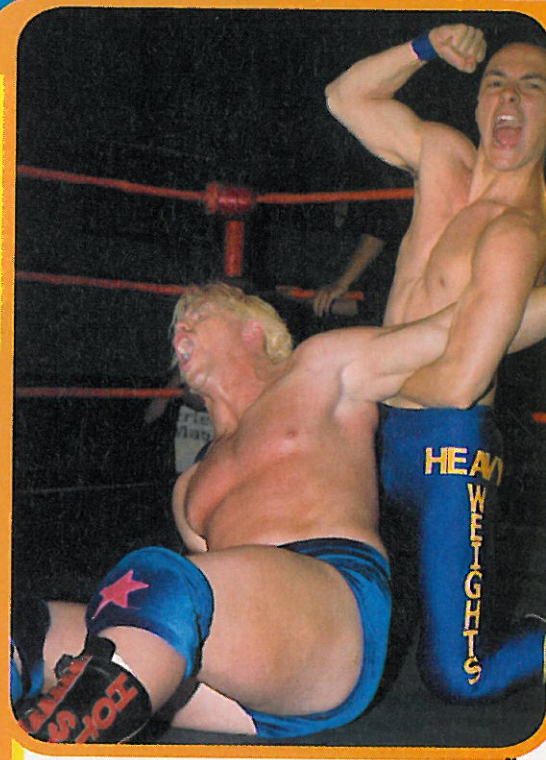
421 ROBERE SHIELDS (5'10", 186, 6, NL) Protégé of Mr. Ooh La La had an impressive showing in the 2007 Summit battle royal, remaining in the ring longer than anyone else before being eliminated ... Volunteering as an ECWA ring crew member and

photographer before eventually hiring Oh La La as a manager ... Trained by H.C. Loc and The Ring Crew Express ... Claims to hail from Paris, France ... Primary finishers are the 450 splash and the Michinoku driver B-2.

422 OMEGA (6'2", 220, 13, 381) Formerly known as Sirius "Mr. Omega" LaVey ... Returned from "outer space" and unveiled a new persona ... Now wears face paint as a tribute to The Great Kabuki ... Uses green mist to paralyze opponents ... Still finishes off opponents with the switch and the hanger 18 legdrop ... Ultimate Wrestling Champion from December 2007 to June 2008 ... Wrestles in Florida's Culture Shock Wrestling ... Main-event performer throughout Florida's Gulf Coast ... Managed by Lady Vain.

423 DAN ECKOS (5'8", 176, 6, NL) The little brother of Valedictorian Rob Eckos is getting out from behind his brother's shadow and making a name for himself as one-half of The Heavyweights with Sean Royal in the East Coast Wrestling Association ... He and Royal are former ECWA tag champs, beating big brother Rob and Billy Bax for the belts ... Claims to stand 6'2" and weigh in at 420 pounds of muscle (we know better).

424 HAWAIIAN LION (6', 238, 6, NL) Native Hawaiian was trained by Navajo Warrior and Mike Knox ... Impact Zone Wrestling's 2007 Wrestler of the Year ... Held the IZW heavyweight title for 10 months before losing it in January ... Enjoyed success on several All Japan tours, teaming with Keiji Muto and Satoshi Kojima ... Signature finishing move is a Lion lock, a reverse figure-four with an anklelock ... Also uses his lava flow uranage variation and his aloha bomb Death Valley driver.



425 JOHNNY OVA (5'10", 180, 8, NL) Former "Million Dollar Protégé" was stripped of that unofficial title when Ted DiBiase turned against him ... DiBiase accused Ova of "getting soft" and accepted a bribe from Bobby Riedel to turn against Ova ... Competed as Joey Maxx in the ECWA ... Began wrestling after the death of his father and dedicates his career to him ... Keeps high-spots at a minimum, working opponents on the mat.

426 ZACHARY SHANE (6'2", 235, 2, NL) Embroiled himself in controversy in Maryland Championship Wrestling when it was revealed that he was the person dating former half-owner Kimberley McDevitt while McDevitt was still married to owner Danny McDevitt ... With the help of Johnny Hardwick, defeated The Ghetto Mafia to win the MCW tag team champion in April ... Shane lost a violent Baltimore Streetfight to owner Danny McDevitt ... A former member of The Rehoboth Beach Crew.

427 CODY DEANER (5'10", 219, 8, NL) Formerly known as Cody Steele, Deaner has embraced his inner redneck and degenerated into a mullet-wearing, cougarhunter ... Claims to be "From Wherever His Trailer Takes Him" ... Can outsmoke the Marlboro Man and outdrink Jack Daniel ... Has won championships throughout his native Canada ... Over-the-top antics hide the fact that he's a tremendous well-rounded wrestler.

428 RIC CONVERSE (6'1", 225, 9, 393) Known as "The First" ... Former AWA

heavyweight champion teamed with Xsiris to win the AWA tag title in 2007 ... Also a three-time CWF/AWA Mid-Atlantic heavyweight champion ... "Slick Diddy" calls his finishing move the Ric-ter scale ... Also well-known for his Converse All-Star elbowsmash and sky-high power bomb ... When he's not winning titles or lifting weights, this registered barber is usually cutting hair.

429 MEGA (6'7", 400, 6, NL) Charismatic big man is a crowd favorite in the East Coast Wrestling Association ... Has issued a challenge to ECWA heavyweight champion Glen Osbourne, but Osbourne has been slow to accept ... Won the New York Wrestling Connection tag title with Prince Nana in December 2007 ... Appeared on WWE *Heat* in a tag team loss against Jim Duggan and Super Crazy ... Won the "Boogie Woogie Brown Memorial Cup" in July 2007.

430 SAMI CALLAHAN (5'10", 200, 2, NL) Known as the "New Horror" ... Is tearing up Insanity Pro Wrestling ... Aggressive competitor also has competed in Ring of Honor, Combat Zone Wrestling, and CHIKARA ... Competed in the Young Lions Cup tournament in June, but was defeated by Vin Gerard in the first round ... Calls his finisher the vision quest jobber clobber ... An exceptional striker, Callahan adeptly uses kneestrikes and wild clotheslines to batter opponents.

431 SOLIDER ANT (5'8", 162, 3, 442) One-third of The Colony, along with Fire Ant and Worker Ant ... Works a crisp salute into most of his signature moves, such as the saluting headscissors and saluting headbutt off the top rope ... Embroiled in a bitter rivalry with Vin Gerard in CHIKARA ... Known to stray from the old ant hill and wrestle throughout the Mid-Atlantic area ... Known for barking out military commands randomly.

432 SEAN ROYAL (5'10", 184, 5, NL) One-half of The Heavyweights with partner Dan Eckos ... Was suspended this summer after accusations that he was involved in the sneak-attack that injured Freak Nasty, but Royal has denied involvement ... Won the ECWA tag title in January 2007 with a win over The Valedictorians ... The Heavyweights reigned for most of the year before dropping the belts to The Berlin Bad Boys.

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433 KORN BRED (6'7", 300, 8, 364)

Held Ultimate Wrestling championship and the Dirty South championship for portions of 2007 ... Sidelined by an after-match attack from John Saxon ... Spent three months playing professional football before ankle injuries brought him back to wrestling ... Wears overalls and has a wooden 2x4, "Plank," as a manager ... Trained by Bobby Doll ... Lost 70 pounds since his rookie debut but still one of the biggest wrestlers on the Gulf Coast ... Huge attraction in small towns of Alabama and Mississippi.

434 TANK (6'3", 400, 10, NL)

The big man from St. Louis won the NBW heavyweight title in a 45-minute match against Kilo in December ... Beat Alex Krisis in a loser-leaves-town match ... Suffered an eye injury at the hands of Tim Edwards, but got revenge by beating Edwards in a fans-bring-the-weapons match ... Occasionally teams with Bonecrusher as The Missouri Wrecking Crew ... Recently won the RCW (Arkansas) heavyweight title.

435 HADE VANSSEN (5'11", 220, 7, NL)

London, England, native cut his teeth in England's Frontier Wrestling Alliance ... Defended All-England championship title against top British star The Zebra Kid ... After winning the WXW (Germany) lightweight championship and the FWA British heavyweight title, traveled to Puerto Rico where he teamed with John Moxley to win the IWA tag title ... Signed a WWE developmental contract in May 2007 and currently competes in FCW ... Known for his South City driller DDT and diving double foot stomp.

436 PRINCE NANA (5'11", 220, 12, NL)

Recently attempted to have The Nigerian Nightmares injure beloved promoter Jim Kettner ... Resurfaced in the New York Wrestling Connection in September 2007 after disappearing from ROH ... Gained control of the ECWA and fired Kettner ... Won the 2007 Summit battle royal, largely by virtue of awarding himself the last entry spot for an easy win ... Finishing move is the double-underhook suplex.

437 BRODIE LEE (6'6", 242, 5, NL)

"Big Rig" has embraced his inner truck driver,

abandoning much of the goofy behavior that was once his trademark ... Started in NWA-Upstate in Rochester, New York, but has traveled

the lonely roads to CHIKARA, CZW, and IWA Mid-South ... Ferocious brawler is an underrated technical grappler ... Has collected wins over Abyss and Steve Corino ... Frequently teamed with Colin Delaney prior to Delaney's WWE signing.

438 ROB TERRY (6'3", 280, 1, NL)

"Big" Rob Terry usually spends more time accompanying Nick Nemeth to the ring than competing ... However, on the occasions when the big man from Wales has gotten physical, he has been a dominating force ... Currently training at Florida Championship Wrestling and under a WWE developmental contract ... A former competitive bodybuilder, Terry also played rugby and competed in track and field.

439 FIRE ANT (5'6", 166, 3, NL)

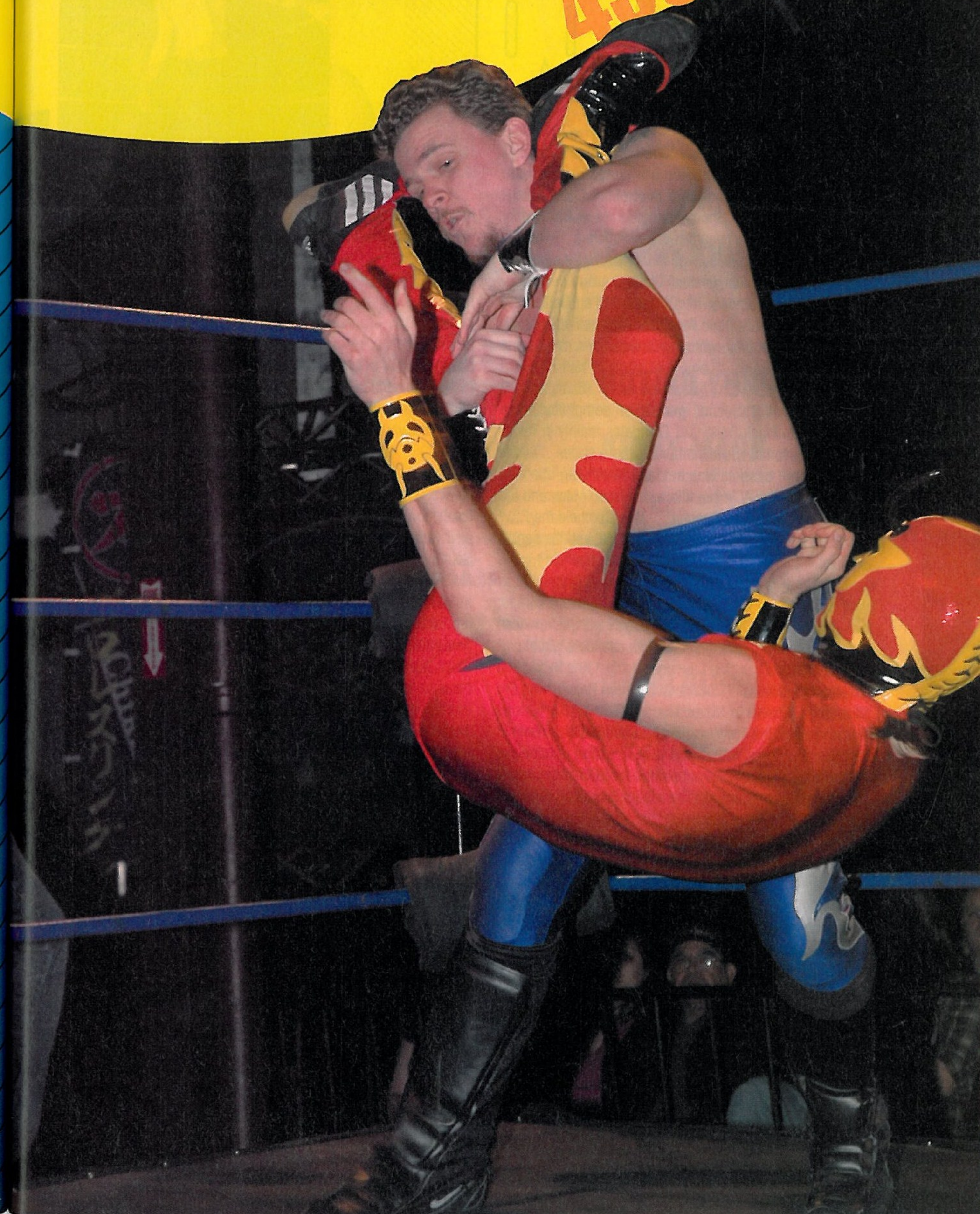
One-third of The Colony, along with Solider Ant and Worker Ant ... The Ants comprise one of the most popular trio teams in CHIKARA ... The Colony competed in the massive "King Of Trios" tournament in February, but fell to Team Mexico ... Frequently uses variations of the fireman's carry as a setup maneuver ... Knocks out opponents with his beach breaker finisher.

440 DAN PAYSAN (5'10", 189, 8, 384)

The native of Campobasso, Italy, goes by either Don or Dan Paysan ... Competes mostly in Canada ... Won the Canadian Wrestling Revolution junior heavyweight title in a six-man ladder match ... Often competes in Blood, Sweat, and Ears and UWA Hardcore ... Teams with Jimmy Stone as The Untouchables in the IWS ... Sends his opponents to sleep with the fishes with his bada bing back-breaker.



433 TO 440



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441 RED ANDERSON (6', 230, 16, 407) Former Ultimate Wrestling commissioner and founding member of the Hellfire Club in long-running feud with Black Sheep's Jerry Reiner ... Belittled for losing a series of loser-wears-a-dress matches ... Had his Harley-Davidson stolen and was forced to drive a moped to the ring ... Resembles "uncles" Ole and Arn Anderson ... Made first appearance with Ole at 2008's "Gulf Coast Wrestling Reunion" ... Won the Ultimate Wrestling championship in June 2008 by defeating Omega.

442 ANDY DALTON (5'7", 200, 4, 427) Second-generation competitor is the son of veteran Frank Dalton ... Competes mainly in Texas, but has wrestled in several other southern states ... Calls XCW his home base ... Has held the NAWA tag title with Sean Cordova, the PCW tag title with Macho Mike, and the RCW tag title with Joey Spector ... Has also held the RCW TV title ... Uses the piledriver, the superkick, and the senton ... Finishing move is the bareback.

443 ZACH GOWAN (5'11", 155, 6, 452) Stints with All American Wrestling produced mixed results, with a notable win alongside tag team partner Dan Lawrence against Kris Hybrid and Bonebreaker Brooks ... Defeated Daemon Reznor with Pro Wrestling Extreme in November and The Anti-American Kickboxer with the Pro Wrestling All Stars in December ... Beat Gary the Freak in Championship Wrestling of Michigan in January ... Has recently appeared for ROH in tag teams against Ruckus and Jigsaw (The Vulture Squad) ... Finishing move is the one-legged moonsault.

444 CARLITOS (5'10", 180, 5, NL) Puerto Rican star adopted the name of Carlitos as a shot at (not a tribute to) Carlito of WWE fame ... Was a top star in the International Wrestling Association while Carlito was in the rival World Wrestling Council ... Carlitos is widely considered to be the top high-flier on the island ... Successful tag team with Hiram Tua known as Los Aeros ... Recently left the IWA after a dispute and has been sorely missed by fans.

445 DYLAN STARR (5'11", 175, 3, 450) "Psycho" was unfairly deprived of his

Texas All-Star Wrestling tag team title ... Failed to regain the TASW cruiserweight title ... Lost to Chip Dumas in the semifinals in a four-month tournament for the cruiserweight title in the fall of 2007 ... Performed unbelievably against ROH star Davey Richards in November, but came up short ... Turned against tag partner Nick Daniels the same evening ... Lost his last bit of sanity after losing a hair-vs.-hair match against Daniels in January ... Recently won TASW hardcore title.

446 ERIC EVERLAST (6'4", 265, 10, NL) The "Exceptional Icon" competes throughout Western New York in NWA-Empire, NWA-Upstate, and Pier 6 Wrestling ... Also frequently competes in Southern Ontario ... Trained by Killer Kowalski ... Held the NWA-Empire tag title with Ron Falco ... Appeared for WWE in 2000, losing to Billy Gunn ... Softens up adversaries for his Exceptional E-nihilator E-bomb with a spinning corner heel kick ... Holds a first-degree brown belt in judo.

447 RON FALCO (5'10", 235, 8, NL) Has been known to compete under a mask as Triple-X ... In either persona, is a powerhouse with a bad attitude and volatile temper ... Competes throughout Central and Western New York and Southern Ontario ... Held the NWA-Empire tag title with Eric Everlast ... Has a very effective spinebuster, which he typically uses to set up for his fisherman driver finisher.

448 JOE GIBSON (6'3", 265, 1, NL) Trained by Percy Pringle III ... Turned against his former mentor and is now feuding with Percy's son, D.J. ... Feud brought Percy out of retirement in a special Pringle family match ... Joined Hellfire Club with Red Anderson to defeat the Pringle Dynasty ... Attacked a cancer patient (Bobby Doll's uncle Jim) in the ring ... Won a series of two-on-one handicap matches in 2008 ... Regularly ends interview segments by choke-slammng commentator/wrestler The SnowMan.



449 JEREMY WYATT (6', 207, 7, NL) Top contender to the NWA Central States and Pro Wrestling Phoenix heavyweight titles ... Teams with Tyler Cook in the Des Moines, Iowa, 3XW promotion, where they are undefeated ... Traveled to Mexico's AAA last year ... Currently feuding with Jaysin Strife in NWA Central States ... Finishes opponents with a cropduster DDT (hammerlock leg sweep DDT) and lightning spiral (snap cradle Olympic slam) ... Holds the LWA (Lethal Wrestling Alliance) medallion championship.

450 MISTER ST. LAURENT (6'2", 313, 5, NL) Big man from Avalon Park, Florida, has held the AWA tag team championship with Chasyn Rance and the Southern Championship Wrestling tag team title with Larry Zbyszko ... Also held the AWA-Florida heavyweight championship ... Usually accompanied to the ring by his valet, So Cal Val ... Primary finishing move is the aptly named Mister Saint Laurent driver ... Claims to be "The Most Important Man Alive," which we believe is "The Greatest Nickname Ever."

451 OMAR AKBAR (6', 220, 3, NL) One-half of The Insurgency in Ohio Valley Wrestling with Ali Akbar ... The inflammatory team held the OWW Southern tag team title for two weeks in May, winning the belts from Los Locos before dropping them to Rob Conway and Pat Buck ... Also held the Derby Championship Wrestling tag title ... Infuriates Louisville fans by decrying the U.S. presence in Iraq and praising Al-Jazeera and The Koran ... Uses the camel clutch as his primary finisher.

452 SHAWN COOK (5'9", 205, 9, 446) "Sexy" Shawn is one of the most conceited—and controversial—wrestlers in the

Midwest ... Won the NWA-Indiana championship after brutalizing Billy Roc, but was stripped of the title two months later after breaking 22 bones in his face during a water sports accident ... Has competed in WWE, OVW, Harley Race's WLW, and several NWA promotions ... Uses a blue thunder driver as his finisher.

453 KENNY KING (6', 230, 6, NL) "The Natural" made it to the final-four of MTV's *Tough Enough* in 2002 and has been busy on the independent scene ever since ... Has competed for Florida's Full Impact Pro and has recently begun competing in Ring of Honor ... Part of Young, Rich, and Ready for Action alongside Steve Madison, Jason Blade, and Chasyn Rance ... Teamed with Blade to beat the Briscoe Brothers for the FIP tag title.

454 KIRBY MACK (5'11", 188, 8, 464) The former protégé of The Hardys has spent much of the past year teaming with his little brother, T.J., as Team Macktion ... The team has won tag championships in CSW, ASW, and Kirby also held the AWA light heavyweight title and the UXW Xtreme title ... Wrestled a memorable singles match against Jerry Lynn in the UWF, then teamed with his brother to face the Motor City Machine Guns the following night ... Lost to Chris Hero in the semifinals of the 2008 "Jeff Peterson Memorial Cup."

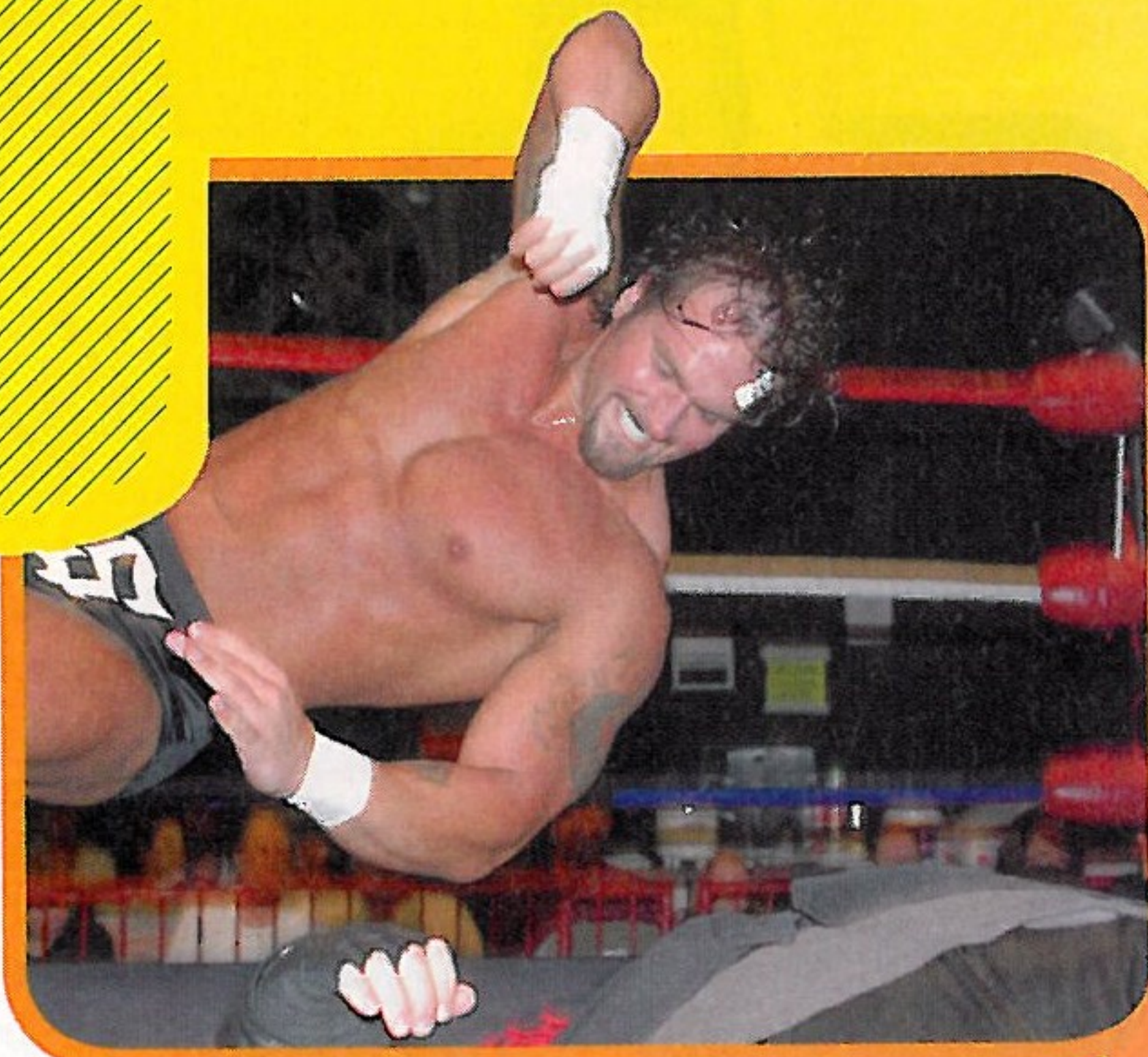
455 DREW BLOOD (5'6", 185, 7, NL) Philadelphia native is making a name for himself in WXW, where he has won the tag team and cruiserweight titles ... Also won the Pro Wrestling Unplugged tag title with Bosom Buddies teammate Teddy Fine ... Also teams with Devin Moore ... Competes throughout the Northeast and is a three-time participant in the New Jersey J-Cup tournament ... Utilizes a variation of the blue thunder bomb, which he calls the muff driver.

456 NATE LAWS (6'1", 327, 3, NL) The "Ultimate Male" Nate Laws was trained by Hernandez of TNA's Latin American Exchange ... Reigned as UWR heavyweight champion for a full year before losing the title to longtime friend Anthony Bishop ... Based out of the Coastal Wrestling Federation ... Has been chasing the CWF title for months, but champion Jack Royal and his manager, Skandar Akbar, have kept that belt out of his reach ... Getting frustrated, fueling rumors that he's ready to join Akbar's Army.

441 TO 456

pwi500

457 BRIAN SOSCIA (5'11", 193, 6, NL) The junior member—and most arrogant—of the Chick Magnets trios team in the East Coast Wrestling Association ... A big believer in Jesse Ventura's old adage, "win if you can, but always cheat" ... Some of his signature moves include the neckbreaker, the moonwalk elbow, and the tear drop suplex ... Has appeared on WWE TV, where he was assaulted by an angry Big Show.



458 SHORTY SMALLS (5'7", 275, 13, NL) Has a rather dysfunctional relationship with his wife and manager, Kacee Carlisle ... Tore ligaments in his left knee when executing a top rope cross-bodyblock against The Pharaoh ... Competes throughout the Mid-Atlantic and in Florida ... Feuding with former partner Deuce Donnatelli in CPW ... Has faced more than his share of big names, including The Rock 'n' Roll Express, Honky Tonk Man, Jim Neidhart, and Doink.

459 CRAZY RUDY (5'8", 230, 14, NL) Tenacious brawler is doing his part to keep the legacy of violent hardcore wrestling alive in Puerto Rico ... His weapon of choice is his trusty baseball bat wrapped in barbed wire, which he sometimes sets on fire ... Missed a few months with health problems, then was brought into the World Wrestling Council by Carlos Colon ... Batters foes with heavily taped fists, stiff chops, and clotheslines.

460 RIC BYRNE (6'1", 258, 7, NL) Bears the scars from being severely burned as a child ... Says his mother set him on fire because she felt he was evil and impure ... Holds deep resentment at all humanity for the way people recoiled from him as he recovered from his third-degree burns, making it his personal mission to make other people suffer ... Trademark catchphrase is "Who's laughing now?" ... The reigning VCW heavyweight champion ... Calls his finishing move the burn-out, appropriately enough.

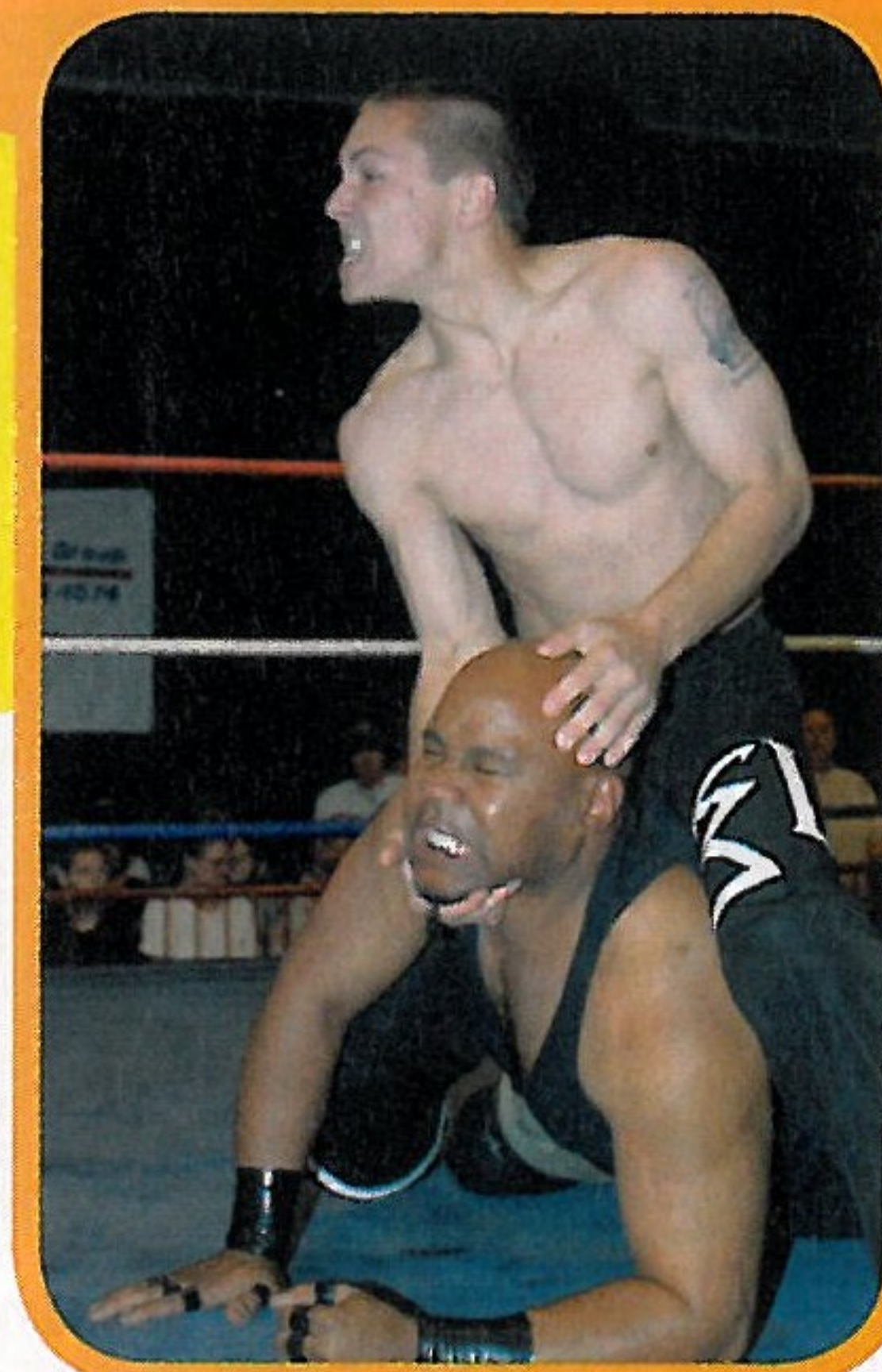
461 T.J. MACK (5'10", 176, 7, NL) "The Encore" is one-half of Team Macktion, along with brother Kirby ... The widely traveled competitor showed up on Raw portraying Marty Jannetty in a skit ... Team Macktion was handpicked by Sgt. Slaughter to represent his

team on the UWF's Wargames card teaming with Dustin Rhodes and the Steiner Brothers ... Uses a modified cravat/neckbreaker as his main finisher and uses his stiff running Yakuza kick called the sparta.

462 MAIFU (6', 450, 10, NL) One-half of the Nigerian Nightmares with Saifu ... The duo claims to be "Professional Wrestling's Most Savage Team" ... Savage brawlers are the top contenders to the ECWA tag title ... Duo struggles to understand the rules, frequently getting disqualified or trying to pin opponents that are lying on their stomach ... Has been known to go to the top rope for a big splash ... The heavier of the face-painted Nightmares.

463 MIKAL JUDAS (5'10", 176, 7, NL) The "Priest Of Punishment" was formerly known as Mikal Adryan, but discovered his killer instinct on a tour of Puerto Rico's IAW and re-christened himself Mikal Judas ... Supernatural persona and imperviousness to pain had made him one of the most popular stars in his home base of NWA-Anarchy ... Appeared on Raw as a Diesel impostor and has worked dark matches for TNA ... Uses el crucierfo (a crucifix power bomb) and chokeslam as his main finishers.

464 PHIL SHATTER (6'3", 242, 7, NL) The "Universal Solider" debuted in NWA-Anarchy in 2007 ... Quickly shot to the top, beating Ace Rockwell to win the NWA-Anarchy heavyweight title in August 2007 ... Part of NWA Elite, managed by Jeff G. Bailey ... Feuded with Iceberg through most of the past year in a battle of big men ... Needed 19 stitches in his head and damaged an artery after Iceberg split his head with a broken table ... Says Adam Pearce is ducking his challenge for the NWA title.



465 ROBBY STARR (5'11", 221, 4, NL) Held the Ohio Championship Wrestling title from January 2007 until February 2008 ... A two-time Main Event World League champion (MEWL) ... Current MEGA Championship Wrestling light heavyweight champ ... Had notable feuds over the OCW heavyweight title against Matt Mason to first win the title back in 2007 ... Feuded with trainer "Big Guns" Jeff Cannon, losing the title in early-2008 ... Signature moves are the Starrstruck, a full-nelson slam, and the Starrsault moonsault.

466 SAIFU (6'2", 434, 10, NL) The more agile of the Nigerian Nightmares ... Propels his 400-plus pound frame over the top rope to hit one of the most devastating legdrops in wrestling ... The colossal team invites comparisons to Umaga, Kamala, and The Samoans ... Currently the top contenders to the ECWA tag title held by The Logan Brothers ... Deceptively quick, the team has been known to sneak into the ring and attack adversaries from behind.

467 PHIL ATLAS (5'10", 195, 4, NL) After establishing himself as one of the rising stars of the Canadian independent scene, embarked on a successful tour with All Japan Pro Wrestling ... Has held championships in New Vision Pro Wrestling, Border City Wrestling, and Midwest Pro Wrestling ... Known for his bone-jarring cravat buster finisher ... Soaked up new moves and combinations in Japan, making him more dangerous than ever.

468 JIMMY OLSEN (5'8", 186, 4, NL) Longtime partner of Colin Delaney when the

duo competed throughout western New York as The Olsen Twins ... Once known best for his comedic antics, "Bam" has developed into one of the most focused and technically sound wrestlers in the region ... Feud with Mastiff resulted in several show-stealing matches ... Also competes in several Ontario promotions and in CHIKARA, where he occasionally teams with "Big Rig" Brodie Lee.

469 MIKE TOBIN (6', 195, 11, 431) Former ECWA Mid-Atlantic champion is one-third of The Chick Magnets, alongside Brian Soscia and Mozart Fontaine ... Considered the technician of the group and has been known to dedicate moves to Tully Blanchard and Paul Orndorff ... Trained in Dory Funk Jr.'s Funkin' Conservatory ... Has also held the NWA-Cyberspace Internet title, the New York Wrestling Connection Interstate title, the UXW U.S. title, and is an eight-time UXW tag team champion.

470 CORPORAL ROBINSON (6'1", 225, 10, NL) Hardcore veteran is still carving up opponents and spilling plenty of his own plasma ... Has competed for IWA: Mid-South, CZW, Juggalo Championship Wrestling, and several other promotions from the East Coast to the Midwest ... His combination cobra clutch with a Russian legsweep is known as the boot camp ... Trained by Tracy Smothers and Ian Rotten.

471 SLIM J (5'8", 187, 7, NL) The only "Grand Slam" winner in NWA-Arena (Anarchy and Wildside) history, having held the heavyweight, junior heavyweight, tag, and TV titles ... Has toned down on some of his high-flying and adopted more MMA moves into his repertoire ... Beat Patrick Bentley by using a flying reverse DDT off the top of a steel cage at NWA-Anarchy's 2007 "Season's Beatings."

472 RYAN McBRIDE (5'10", 185, 2, NL) Competes for Maryland Championship Wrestling, Combat Zone Wrestling, and Jersey All Pro Wrestling ... Frequently teams with Teddy Stigma ... Highlight of the year: teaming with Stigma and legend Rick Morton to defeat Ramblin' Rich, Jimmy Jannetty, and Bob Starr ... A fearless high-flier known for his daredevil topes and dives ... He and Stigma became top contenders for the MCW tag belts with wins over The Rehoboth Beach Crew, Phat Blues Inc., and Micky Benz and Dino Divine.

45/104/12

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473 CHANCE PROPHET (6'3", 241, 8, 379) Former NWA National champion competes throughout Kentucky, Ohio, and the Carolinas ... Trained under Danny Ray at Appalachian Pro Wrestling ... Has competed against A.J. Styles, Christopher Daniels, Jamie Noble, Steve Corino, and Abyss, among other nationally known competitors ... Has competed for TNA, Ring of Honor, Pro Wrestling Unplugged, and several NWA affiliates ... Has vowed revenge on NWA competitors for "leaving him for dead" while he was injured.

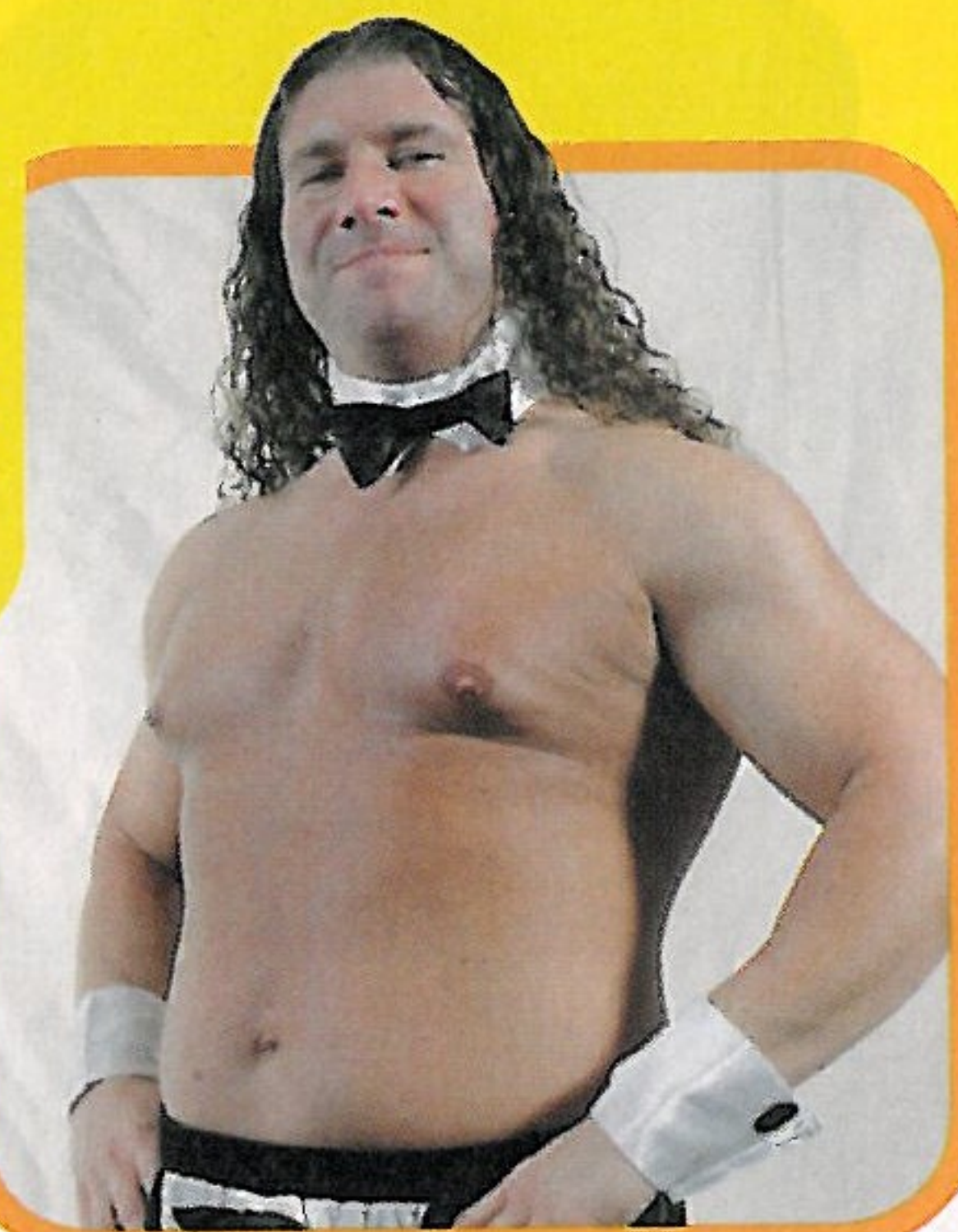
474 HIRAM TUA (6', 220, 3, NL) Held the IWA (Puerto Rico) cruiserweight title from October 2007 through May 2008 ... With Carlitos and Ray Gonzales, walked out of the promotion stemming from controversies involving promoter Mario Savoldi ... Regularly teamed with Carlitos as the high-flying team Los Aeros ... Very popular competitor because of his good looks and high-risk wrestling style ... Capable mat wrestler who could be just as successful without the risky aerial moves.

475 MOZART FONTAINE (5'9", 201, 7, NL) One-third of The Chick Magnets (along with Mike Tobin and Brian Soscia) ... East Coast Wrestling Association Hall-of-Famer ... Former ECWA Mid-Atlantic champion ... Often uses an array of neckbreakers to set up for his requiem sit-out Rock bottom or the Chick Magnets' Magnet-tiser three-man Hart attack ... Prefers to slow down the pace of a match and outwrestle opponents on the mat ... Has a lethal left hand.

476 MATT RIVIERA (6'2", 242, 4, 486) Claims to hail from "Your Dreams" ... Reigning All-Star Wrestling Federation European champion and Mid-South Pro Wrestling tag team champion (along with Jeff Jett) ... Biggest win of the year came with a victory over Greg King Jr. in Riviera's hometown of Russellville, Arkansas (is that near Your Dreams?) ... Unveiled a new submission finisher he calls the Matticure, a camel clutch variation.

477 HOOK BOMBERRY (5'8", 185, 7, 479) The man from "Porn Valley, California," held the Empire Wrestling Federation American title from October 2007 through May 2008, ultimately dropping the

Photo by Joe Zanolle



strap to Vizzion ... Has competed for every major promotion in California, including Pro Wrestling IRON, Pro Wrestling Guerrilla, and Supreme Pro Wrestling ... Match against Nate Myaki was named IRON's Match of the Year for 2007 ... Known for his lightning-quick mat work and formidable submission grappling skills.

478 MASTIFF (5'8", 202, 5, NL) One of the rising stars in western New York and southern Ontario ... Former Empire State Wrestling champion had a lengthy feud with Jonny Puma ... Has taken a dark turn from a happy-go-lucky fan favorite, putting plastic bags over the faces of his beaten opponents and threatening to asphyxiate them ... Was praised by Scott D'Amore, who handpicked him to compete in a match against Team Canada at a "Ballpark Brawl" event in 2005.

479 PINKIE LaRUE (5'8", 215, 2, NL) Hailing from San Francisco, Pinkie bills himself as the "Sweetest Transvestite In Pro Wrestling" ... Influenced by Adrian Street, hence the surname LaRue (French for "The Street") ... Held the Midwest Wrestling Alliance TV title for nearly six months ... Has been lobbying to form a partnership with "Cowboy" Troy Roberts, but Roberts has refused the offer to join the Brokeback Connection ... Competed in both the heavyweight and women's division in the West Texas Wrestling Association.

480 CHRIS STONE (5'7", 180, 10, NL) Youngest Greco family member has had one of his most successful years ... Joined the Bellos Stone with brothers Alan Stone and Super Calo, managed by father Bello Greco ... Feuding with the Guapos VIP ... Helped his brothers and Intocable save their hair in a six-sided steel cage match in the fall ... Usually jumps off the ropes to pin his rivals with a plancha.



481 SUPREME LEE GREAT (5'8", 205, 9, NL) The native of "The Great City Of Crestwood High" got a taste of Hollywood, helping actor Mickey Rourke train for the upcoming film *The Wrestler* ... He has since done stunt work in three additional films ... Still staying busy wrestling, winning the Xero Underground title, the WAW (World Alliance of Wrestling) U.S. title, and the WAW heavyweight title ... Uses the clothesline from Crestwood and the Supreme sleeper as his signature moves ... Last appeared in the "PW 500" in 2005.

482 TEDDY STIGMA (6'3", 220, 2, NL) A perennial contender for the Maryland Championship Wrestling tag team title, along with partner Ryan McBride ... The team captured the Eastern Wrestling Alliance tag team title after a year-long chase, beating The Varsity to take the belts ... Calls himself the "Working Class Warrior" and hopes to lead a workers' rebellion against the oppressive tyranny of capitalism ... High-impact, explosive competitor has a wide array of suplexes in his arsenal.

483 GREG MARASCIULO (6'2", 200, 2, NL) Competed on the New York indy scene as Plazma before signing a WWE developmental contract last December ... Briefly competed in Ohio Valley Wrestling before moving to Florida Championship Wrestling ... Previously held the New York Wrestling Connection Hi-Fi title ... Held his own in matches against Jerry Lynn ... Has impressive counter-wrestling skills despite his relative inexperience.

484 APOCALYPSE (6'3", 230, 6, NL) When asked where he sees himself in 10 years, this OWW competitor replies "Atop a large pile of bodies and nothing but the world fallen at my feet," which has

to go over big in job interviews ... A former Stampede heavyweight champion ... Feuded with Harry "D.H." Smith and hopes to continue his feud against the next generation of Harts in WWE ... A macabre and twisted individual bent on not simply winning matches, but torturing opponents.

485 PLAYER UNO (5'11", 190, 4, 435) We understand that Player Uno loves his old-school Nintendo, but he may really want to think about ditching those tights with the control buttons ... Often gets put in "pause" mode, which allows opponents to beat the tar out of him until he's un-paused ... Calls CHIKARA home, naturally ... Known as the "8-Bit Luchador," he hails from the Mushroom Kingdom ... Primary finishers are the Bubble Bobble buster brainbuster and impressively compact Game Genie cradlebreaker.

486 JIMMY DeMARCO (5'8", 185, 4, NL) "DeeeeLicious" Jimmy DeMarco is cousins with the Gambino Brothers and holds the dubious distinction as being the biggest troublemaker on the International Wrestling Cartel roster ... Also known as the "Prime Minister Of Perversion" ... Has been banned from some venues in West Virginia, Ohio, and Michigan ... Frequently tags with Vendetta as The Hollywood Balds ... Known for his smooth floatover suplex ... Favored finisher is the sugar-coated cookie cutter.

487 WADE CHISM (6'2", 250, 8, 460) "Wild" Wade completed a successful high school and collegiate athletics career and began training at the Harley Race Wrestling Academy ... Scored an upset win over Trevor Murdoch in just his second pro match ... A five-time WLW heavyweight champion and has held the tag title on several occasions, including with Mike DiBiase ... Toured Pro Wrestling NOAH in Japan in 2006.

488 TIM DONST (5'10", 187, 1, NL) Earned high marks from fans and critics with an exceptional rookie year in CHIKARA ... Had seven years of amateur wrestling experience before stepping into the ring ... Scored wins over CHIKARA standouts Eddie Kingston, Ophidian, and Icarus—though he frequently took a hellacious beating in the process (especially from Kingston) ... Won the EPIC War championship in his California debut ... Was recruited into the Order of the Neo Solar Temple when his judgment was impaired after a head injury.

473 TO 488

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489 LEONO (5'10", 176, 5, NL) Hard-working novice had a successful year ... Climbed from lower-card matches to mid-card bouts ... Frequently competed in trios, teaming with young talent like Stuka Jr. and Mictlan ... Shaved the head of Loco Max last fall ... One of his biggest victories was defeating Mr. Mexico in the Arena Mexico ... Captured more hair by defeating Disturbio in January ... Makes his opponents tap out to la lionesa.

490 DRE BLITZ (6', 200, 2, NL) The "Soul Cat" claims to hail from Funky Town and Louisville fans dig his funky groove ... Sashays his way to the ring with The Bee Gees' "Stayin' Alive" ... Claims his aspiration is to "bring the soul back to Ohio Valley Wrestling" ... Loves to dance, but is no slouch when it comes to brawling ... Signature moves are the soul splash and the soul kick.

491 IGOTTA BREWSKI (6', 250, 2, NL) A cross between The Crusher and Ivan Putski ... Milwaukee native claims to be a "Bar Olympian" and says he is undefeated in barroom brawls ... Calls his finishing move "Milwaukee's Best" ... Whatever brand he drinks, it surely must be low-carb, because Brewski boasts a chiseled physique ... Straight-forward brawler who claims beer makes him stronger.

492 LARRY ZBYSZKO (5'11", 231, 35, NL) The "Living Legend" has made a



return to the "500" rankings after a 14-year absence ... Was recognized as the "rightful AWA champion" as he never lost the championship when the original AWA folded in 1990 ... Competes with Chasyn Rance and Mister Saint Laurent as Team Vision in Southern Championship Wrestling ... Published his autobiography *Adventures In Larryland* this year ... Still using the piledriver as his finisher.

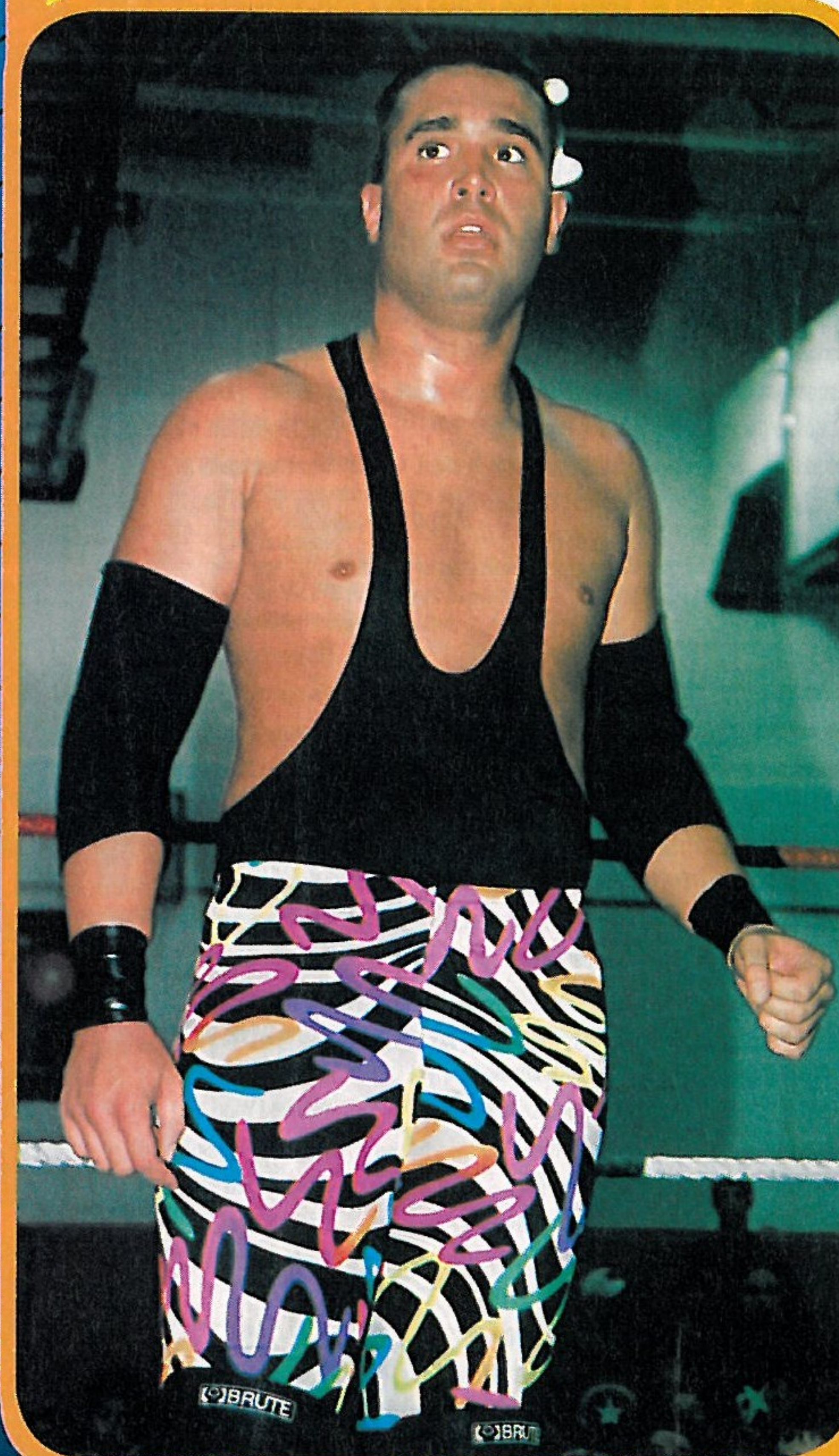
493 SUPER CALO (5'8", 192, 18, NL) The quick luchador has had an impressive year ... Since losing his mask, Calo has improved inside the squared circle ... Joined the Bellos Stone stable with brothers Alan Stone and Chris Stone ... Managed by their father, Bello Greco ... Feuded with the Guapos VIP, which included a series of violent matches ... Saved his hair in a six-sided steel cage match in the fall ... Uses the tope con giro.

494 MARSHALL GAMBINO (6', 280, 4, NL) Burly Italian from Ozone Park, New York, wrestles for International Wrestling Cartel ... A two-time IWC tag champion, along with brother Mickey ... Enters the ring to the *The Godfather* theme ... Don't ask him about the family business ... Signature moves include the arrivederci, this end up, and the curse of the Gambino ... Trained by Shirley Doe and Super Hentai ... Known as "The Bull."

495 HYDRA (5'8", 147, 3, NL) Smallest member of CHIKARA's Order of the Neo Solar Temple stable takes a page from Mike Mondo and Crash Holly, claiming to stand 6'7" and weighing in at more than 300 pounds ... His "Hydra-lock Challenge" never quite took off, though no one has ever escaped ... Competes throughout New England and the Mid-Atlantic ... Has drawn muscles on himself in Magic Marker to intimidate opponents.

496 MICKEY GAMBINO (5'9", 202, 4, NL) The junior member of the Gambino Moving Company, alongside big brother Marshall ... Finisher is the a'van couli, a version of the fisherman's buster ... Competes in the International Wrestling Cartel ... Provides a touch of science, while his partner relies on brute strength ... Lost the IWC tag title to Shiima Xion and Jason Gory in January.

497 WORKER ANT (6'2", 171, 2, NL) The junior member of The Colony is paying his dues and showing potential ... Along with Fire Ant and Soldier Ant, made it to the semifinals of CHIKARA's "King Of Trios" tournament, defeating Las Chivas Raya-



das, Team El Dorado, and F.I.S.T. ... Qualified for the Young Lions Cup in June, but was eliminated early due to outside interference from Vin Gerard ... This Ant is known to make opponents cry uncle with his "ant-zui-giri" and his signature moonsault block.

498 THE GUY WITH RED HAIR (5'10", 192, 4, NL) Goes by Psycho, or his more common sobriquet, The Guy With Red Hair ...

A crowd favorite in East Coast Championship Wrestling and Chaotic Wrestling ... Hails from Solomon's Mental Institute in Lowell, Massachusetts ... Easily identified by his flaming crimson hair, his ever-present (though easy-to-escape) straitjacket, and his smiley-face singlet ... Spent a large part of the past year taunting Frederick of Hollywood ... Calls his finishing move the double broccoli ... A former Chaotic New England and tag champion.

499 KLIFF HANGER (6', 200, 7, NL) This charismatic Louisville native has been trading the NWA Top Rope junior heavyweight title back and forth with Arrick Andrews ... Trained by Harley Race and aspires to follow in Race's footsteps by winning the NWA heavyweight title ... Wrestled Nick "Eugene" Dinsmore and Tommy "Wildfire" Rich in 2008 ... Holds a tag team championship with midget wrestler Half Nelson in one of the most unusual teams on the indy circuit.

500 KURT ADONIS (6'1", 210, 4, NL) "Purty" Kurt Adonis is one of the most disliked individuals in Northeast Wrestling and Power and Glory Wrestling ... Somehow managed to lose feuds against both Talia "Velvet Sky" Madison and midget wrestler Short Sleeve Sampson ... Roddy Piper made a point of humiliating Adonis when he hosted a special "Piper's Pit" segment ... Was actually pinned by the mayor of Torrington, Connecticut, in a tag team match ... He may have suffered some embarrassing losses, but he's the reigning PGW champion.

FAREWELL TO THE 500

The list of active wrestlers is always changing. Since last year's "PWI 500" was published, some wrestlers have migrated to different federations or changed their names. Others are now injured, inactive, or retired. Still others have been dropped from this year's ranking for other reasons.

Keys are as follows: (D) deceased; (DL) disabled list throughout a major portion of this year; (I) inactive; (NC) name change; (NL) not listed; (R) retired.

A-1 (R)	Damaja (NL)	Jado (NL)	Yoshinari Ogawa (NL)	Ken Steel (NL)
Aaron Aguilera (NL)	Christopher Daniels (NC)	Jagged (NL)	Takao Omori (NL)	Rick Steiner (I)
C.W. Anderson (R)	Danny Daniels (NL)	K.C. James (NL)	Dru Onyx (NL)	Rex Sterling (NL)
Karl Anderson (NL)	Fergal Devitt (NC)	Jeff Jarrett (I)	Onyx (NL)	Aaron Stevens (NL)
El Angel (NL)	Danshoku Dino (NL)	Brian Jennings (NL)	Oriental (NL)	Chase Stevens (NL)
Animal (NL)	Andy Douglas (NL)	Johnny Jeter (I)	Pierre-Carl Ouellet (NL)	Martin Stone (NL)
Apolo (I)	Damaja (NL)	Koji Kanemoto (NL)	Ozz (NL)	Scot Summers (NL)
Ares (NL)	Steve Douglas (NL)	Kapu (NL)	Justice Pain (NL)	Super Delfin (NL)
Brad Armstrong (I)	Eric Draven (NL)	Frankie Kazarian (NC)	Johnny Palazzo (NL)	Super Dragon (NL)
Brian Ash (NL)	D-Ray 3000 (NL)	Kikutaro (NL)	Frank Parker (NL)	Amigo Suzuki (NL)
Bad Bones (NL)	Rene Dupree (NL)	Kimera (NL)	Richard Phillips (NL)	Matt Sydal (NC)
Doug Basham (I)	Tommy End (NL)	Toby Klein (NL)	Antoni Polaski (NL)	Tatanka (NL)
Michael Bentley (I)	Aaron Epic (NL)	Shaun Koen (NL)	Psicosis (NL)	Akira Taue (NL)
Bishop (NL)	Eugene (NC)	Chris Kole (NL)	Quicksilver (NL)	Dave Taylor (NL)
Anthony Bishop (NL)	Excalibur (I)	Shuji Kondo (NL)	Raven (I)	Dustin Thomas (NL)
Brian Blade (I)	Eric Fantabulous (DL)	Shiro Koshinaka (NL)	Jerry Reiner (NL)	Brandon Thomaselli (NL)
Justin Blaze (NL)	Don Fuji (NL)	Michael Kovac (NL)	Dick Rick (NL)	Sal Thomaselli (NL)
El Blazer (NL)	Rick Fuller (NL)	Laredo Kid (I)	Ricochet (NC)	Vito Thomaselli (NL)
Bobby 2 Badd (NL)	Shoichi Funaki (NC)	Bobby Lashley (I)	Daniel Rodman (NL)	Tony Torres (NL)
The Boogeyman (I)	Brian Fury (NL)	Latin Lover (R)	Ronin (NL)	Toscano (NL)
King Booker (NC)	Bino Gambino (NL)	Sirus LaVey (NC)	Sabian (NL)	Turbo (NL)
Chris Bosh (I)	Ganger (NL)	Quinten Lee (NL)	Ryo Saito (NL)	Universo 2000 (NL)
Murat Bosphorous (NL)	Gedo (NL)	Mace (NL)	The Sandman (I)	Shane Valentine (NL)
Maxime Boyer (I)	Justyn Glory (NL)	Brett Major (NC)	Takuma Sano (NL)	Vampiro (NL)
Patrick Brink (NL)	Ed Gonzalez (NL)	Brian Major (NC)	Great Sasuke (NL)	Tommy Vandal (NL)
El Bronco (NC)	Jason Gory (NL)	Tony Mamaluke (I)	John Saxon (NL)	Rob Van Dam (I)
Brother Runt (NC)	Jey Graham (NL)	Andrew Martin (I)	Tony Scarpone (NL)	Viking (NL)
BxB Hulk (NC)	Sylvan Grenier (NL)	Jake Matthews (NL)	Scorpio (NL)	Viscera (NC)
Chakal (NL)	Fuerza Guerrera (NL)	Shane Matthews (NL)	Scorpio Sky (NL)	Michael Von Payton (NL)
Kory Chavis (NL)	Jake Gyrmini (NL)	Billy Maverick (R)	Scotty 2 Hotty (NL)	Alan Wasylychyn (NL)
Darin Childs (NL)	Jesse Gyrmini (NL)	Joey Mercury (NC)	Senshi (NC)	Damien Wayne (NL)
Mason Childs (DL)	Hangtime (NL)	Tigre Metalico (NL)	Sexxy Eddy (NL)	Beef Wellington (NL)
Muerte Cibernetica (NC)	Joey Harder (R)	Kid Mikaze (NL)	Seth Shai (NL)	Justin White (NL)
Jerrelle Clark (NL)	Danny Havoc (NL)	Brian Milonas (NL)	Jinsei Shinzaki (NL)	Aaron Williams (NL)
Rey Cometa (NL)	Cody Hawk (NL)	MINORU (NL)	Sicodelico Jr. (NL)	Yoshiaki Yago (NL)
Darin Corbin (NL)	Andre Heart (NL)	Nick Mitchell (I)	Emil Sitoci (NL)	Susumu Yokosuka (NL)
Marcus Cor Von (I)	Gregory Helms (DL)	MIYAWAKI (NL)	Skayde (NL)	Mohammed Yone (NL)
Justin Credible (NL)	Ikuto Hidaka (NL)	Mike Mizanin (NC)	Harry Smith (NC)	David Young (NL)
Dave Crist (I)	Genki Horiguchi (NL)	Jon Moxley (NL)	Tracy Smothers (NL)	Drake Younger (NL)
Jake Crist (I)	Ala Hussein (NL)	Osamu Nishimura (NL)	Joey Spector (NL)	
Daniel Cross (NL)	Masao Inoue (NL)	Vincent Nothing (NL)	J.T. Stahr (NL)	
Andrew Dalton (NC)	Taiji Ishimori (NL)	Octagon (NL)	Austin Starr (NC)	